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WEEK IN REVIEW – HAMMOND

Hammond, Indiana- The United States Attorney's Office announced the following:

Jermaine Jackson, 29, of Gary, Indiana, was charged in an Indictment with possession with the intent to distribute cocaine base, possession with the intent to distribute marijuana, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force and the Gary Police Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dean Lanter.

Maurice Jordan Price, 21, of Gary, Indiana, was charged in an Indictment with being a felon in possession of a firearm. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nicholas Padilla.

Noe Diaz, 31, of Chicago, Illinois, pled guilty before Senior Judge James T. Moody to count one of an Indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute cocaine. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Richard P. Hasza, 29, of Hobart, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to 6 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release, 6 months of which will be on home detention, after pleading guilty to count two of an Indictment charging him with making false statements in the purchase of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nicholas Padilla.

Kevin Greene, 29, of Whiting, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge James T. Moody to 27 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count three of an Indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Chang-Adiga.

Eric Caldwell, 20, of Country Club Hills, Illinois, was sentenced by Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to months 24 imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an Indictment charging him with conspiracy to sell stolen firearms. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Hammond Police Department, the Harvey, Illinois Police Department and the Cook County Sheriff's Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dean Lanter.

Ahmena S. Kimble, 26, of Hammond, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge James T. Moody to 5 years of probation and \$106,055 restitution after pleading guilty to count one of an Indictment charging her with bank fraud of First Financial Bank in Schererville, Indiana. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Secret Service. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall Stewart.

Tracy L. Brown, 46, of Chicago, Illinois, was sentenced by Senior Judge James T. Moody to 30 months imprisonment, \$134,321.26 in restitution, and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to counts one, two, and six of an Indictment charging her with conspiracy to defraud the United States. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Toi Houston.

Samuel Carranza, 54, of Lansing, Illinois, was sentenced by Senior Judge James T. Moody to 63 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count twenty-eight of a superseding Indictment charging him with possession with the intent to distribute marijuana in the case *US v Crawford et al.* This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Gregory M. Harris, 41, of Ogden Dunes, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Rudy Lozano to 51 months imprisonment, \$2,947,348 in restitution, and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to counts one and three of a superseding Indictment charging him with robbery of property of Chase Bank and engaging in monetary transactions of criminally derived property-money laundering. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas Ratcliffe.

LaPaul Dwayne Laws, 38, of Gary, Indian, was sentenced by Senior Judge James T. Moody to 3 years of probation after pleading guilty to count one of an Indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas Ratcliffe.

The United States Attorney's Office emphasized that an Indictment is merely an allegation and that all persons charged are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.