



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of Maryland



Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Attorney

36 South Charles Street
4th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885

Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer

FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov

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**CONTACT AUSA VICKIE E. LEDUC or
MARCIA MURPHY at (410) 209-4885**

TWO MEMBERS OF 4X4 DRUG ORGANIZATION EXILED TO 10 YEARS IN PRISON

Baltimore, Maryland - U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake sentenced St. Matthews Troy Evans, age 22, of Baltimore, today to 10 years in prison followed by five years of supervised release for conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute powder and crack cocaine. Yesterday, Judge Blake also sentenced Darrian Hilliard, age 22, of Baltimore, to 10 years in prison for the conspiracy.

The sentences were announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein; Special Agent in Charge Theresa R. Stoop of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Baltimore Field Division; Baltimore City State's Attorney Gregg L. Bernstein; and Baltimore Police Commissioner Frederick H. Bealefeld III.

According to their plea agreements, the indictment and other court documents, from at least June 2009 through August 2010, Evans and Hilliard were part of a drug distribution organization that operated in the Northeast Baltimore neighborhood known as the "4x4." The "4x4" is a small, relatively closed neighborhood consisting of four streets: Ravenwood, Elmora, Lyndale and Elmley Avenues all run east and west; and Greenview, St. Cloud, Highview and Longview Avenues all run north and south. The area is bordered on the east and west ends by Edison Highway and Belair Road, respectively.

According to their pleas and other court documents, Evans and Hilliard admit that during the time of the conspiracy they distributed crack and powder cocaine, collected money from drug customers and distributors, and furthered the drug trafficking activities of other members of the drug conspiracy. Evans and Hilliard admit that during the time of the conspiracy, they were responsible for the distribution of 280 grams or more of crack cocaine. Evans was also responsible for the distribution of five kilograms or more of powder cocaine and Hilliard was responsible for the distribution of 500 grams of powder cocaine.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked ATF's Violent Crime Impact Team, the Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office for their work in this investigation and prosecution. Mr. Rosenstein commended Special Assistant United States Attorney Traci L. Robinson, a cross-designated Baltimore City Assistant State's Attorney, who prosecuted the case.