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# **News Release**

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## **Three individuals plead guilty to possessing firearms, six others plead to distributing crack cocaine**

Earlier today in federal court in Minneapolis, a 23-year-old St. Cloud man pleaded guilty to aiding other felons in the possession of a firearm. Victor Cortez Shelton specifically pleaded guilty to one count of aiding and abetting a felon in possession of a firearm. Shelton, who was indicted along with eight co-defendants on November 1, 2010, entered his plea before United States District Court Judge Ann D. Montgomery.

In his plea agreement, Shelton admitted that on June 19, 2010, he possessed and aided and abetted others in the possession of a 12-gauge shotgun. He gave the shotgun to co-defendant Shila Robinson, who took it to co-defendant Orlando Walker, both of whom are convicted felons. Because he too is a felon, Shelton is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition at any time. Shelton was convicted in Stearns County in 2007 for second-degree assault and fifth-degree assault.

Also in connection to this case, co-defendant Lanesta Jean White, age 28, of Minneapolis, pleaded guilty on March 21, 2011, to one count of possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine. In her plea agreement, White admitted that on May 4, 2010, she possessed with intent to distribute and did distribute approximately 28 grams of crack cocaine. In addition, White admitted being responsible for between 28-112 grams of crack cocaine.

On March 16, 2011, co-defendant Derek Wayne Brown, age 42, of Minneapolis, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute 500 or more grams of cocaine, while co-defendant Carl Maurice Woodard, age 42, of Richfield, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine. In their plea agreements, Brown admitted that from April 20 through July 10, 2010, he possessed with intent to distribute and did distribute approximately 500 grams of cocaine. In addition, Brown admitted he was responsible for between 5-15 kilograms of cocaine. Woodard admitted that on June 25,

2010, he possessed with intent to distribute and did distribute approximately 28 grams of crack cocaine. In addition, Woodard admitted being responsible for between 28-112 grams of crack cocaine.

On March 15, 2011, co-defendant Leverette Cushawn Cargill, age 34, no known address, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine. In addition, Orlando Michael Jravha Walker, age 26, and Shila Marie Robinson, age 31, both of St. Cloud, pleaded guilty to one count of aiding and abetting a felon in possession of a firearm. In his plea agreement, Cargill admitted that on May 4, 2010, she possessed with intent to distribute approximately 28 grams of crack cocaine and was responsible for between 28-112 grams of crack cocaine. In his plea agreement, Walker admitted that on April 23, 2010, he possessed a nine-millimeter pistol. In her plea agreement, Robinson admitted that on June 19, 2010, she possessed a 12-gauge shotgun that she received from Shelton, a convicted felon. Because they are felons, Robinson and Walker are prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition at any time. Walker was convicted in Hennepin County in 2004 for being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm. Robinson was convicted in Stearns County in 2009 for damage to property.

On March 14, 2011, co-defendants Robert Brandon Cook, age 31, and Tiffany Tyeisha Dantzler, age 23, both of St. Paul, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine. In his plea agreement, Cook admitted that on May 3, 2010, he possessed with intent to distribute approximately seven grams of crack cocaine and was responsible for between 280-840 grams of crack cocaine. In addition, Cook admitted that while he was distributing the crack cocaine, he possessed multiple firearms. In her plea agreement, Dantzler admitted that on May 7, 2010, she possessed with intent to distribute approximately six grams of crack cocaine and was responsible for between 28-49 grams of crack cocaine.

For their crimes, Brown, Cargill, Cook, Dantzler, White, and Woodard face a potential maximum penalty of 40 years in prison. Robinson, Shelton, and Walker face a potential maximum penalty of ten years. Judge Montgomery will determine their sentences at a future hearing, yet to be scheduled.

This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Minneapolis Police Department; the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension; the St. Cloud Police Department; the Minnesota Department of Corrections; the St. Paul Police Department; the Minnesota State Patrol; the Stearns County Sheriff's Office; the Benton County Sheriff's Office; the Todd County Sheriff's Office; the Morrison County Sheriff's Office; the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office; the Little Falls Police Department; the Sartell Police Department; the Sauk Rapids Police Department; the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office; and the Waite Park Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney LeeAnn K. Bell.

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