



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of New York*

100 South Clinton Street

*Room 900; P.O. Box 7198
Syracuse, New York 13261-7198
(315) 448-0672*

NEWS RELEASE: Eleventh 110 Gang Member Pleads Guilty to Racketeering

April 28, 2011

RICHARD S. HARTUNIAN, United States Attorney, Northern District of New York, announces that **QUASHAWN BLUNT**, age 21, of Syracuse, New York, pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in Syracuse to an Indictment charging him with conspiring to engage in a pattern of racketeering activity through his membership in the 110 Gang, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1962(d).

As part of his plea, **BLUNT** admitted the following: (1) that he was involved with the 110 gang, which was also known as "Face Mob," in memoriam to slain 110 gang member Darone Scott, a/k/a "Face"; (2) that the 110 Gang engaged in a pattern of racketeering activity that included, among other things, possessing with intent to distribute and distribution of cocaine base (crack) and various acts of violence; (3) that the 110 Gang operated within a specifically defined geographic area on the south side of the City of Syracuse, New York; (4) that 110 Gang members routinely guarded that territory and resorted to acts of violence, if necessary, to insure that no rival gang members encroached upon their territory to sell drugs, or for any other reason; (5) that by tightly controlling their defined geographic area, 110 Gang members maintained an exclusive territory within which only their members or associates could distribute their crack cocaine; and (6) that the gang also routinely engaged in acts of violence both within and outside their territory in furtherance of their gang activities.

BLUNT also admitted to committing various overt acts listed in the Indictment, which included drug trafficking and shooting at another person in 110 gang territory.

BLUNT faces up to life imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to five years of supervised release following any period of incarceration when he is sentenced in January, 2011. **BLUNT** is the eleventh 110 gang member to plead guilty in this matter. The cases against one other co-defendant, Ralph Walker, remains pending. Walker is set for trial on June 20, 2011.¹

This prosecution resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the Syracuse Gang Violence Task Force, which is comprised of agents and detectives from the following agencies: United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (Syracuse Office), the Syracuse Police Department, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department, the New York State Police, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

Further questions or inquiries may be directed to Assistant United States Attorney John M. Katko, the prosecutor handling the case, at (315) 448-0916.

¹ The allegations contained in the Indictment are mere accusations; and all of the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law either by way of a guilty plea or verdict of guilty.