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## U.S. Department of Justice

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### Member of Syracuse Drug Ring Sentenced to 10 Years Imprisonment

May 4, 2011

#### NEWS RELEASE

Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announces that **GREGORY DELEE, JR.**, age 25, of Syracuse, was sentenced to 120 months imprisonment today in U.S. District Court in Syracuse in connection with his role in a major drug distribution ring operating in Syracuse from early 2008 through at least April 2009. **DELEE** previously pled guilty to conspiracy to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(b)(1)(B) and 846.

As part of his plea, **DELEE** admitted to purchasing cocaine and crack cocaine in approximately ½ ounce (14 grams) quantities from co-defendant Maurice Kears on several occasions during the relevant time period. In those instances when the Defendant obtained cocaine powder from Kears, the Defendant would cook the cocaine into crack cocaine and then sell it to his customers. He used some of the proceeds from those sales to buy more cocaine and crack cocaine from the Kears.<sup>1</sup>

This prosecution resulted from a joint investigation undertaken by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Syracuse Police Department, the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police.

Further inquiries can be directed to Assistant U. S. Attorney John M. Katko, Syracuse, New York at (315) 448-0916.

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<sup>1</sup> Kears previously pled guilty to similar charges and is awaiting sentencing.