



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Richard Hartunian  
Northern District of New York

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2011

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyn>

## GUILTY PLEA IN SHOOTING ON ONONDAGA RESERVATION

RICHARD S. HARTUNIAN, United States Attorney, Northern District of New York, announces that **BAYON HUNTER**, age 26, of Syracuse, New York, pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in Syracuse to a two-count indictment in connection with a shooting he committed on the Onondaga Indian Reservation on August 3, 2010. Specifically, **HUNTER** pled guilty to Count One, possession with intent to distribute and distribution of cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(C); and Count Two, the use, carry and discharge of a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(iii) & 2.

As part of his plea, **HUNTER** admitted shooting the victim with a .45 caliber handgun while the two stood outside **HUNTER**'s car, which was parked next to a dam on the Onondaga Indian Reservation. **HUNTER** further admitted that he shot the victim after the victim complained about the quality of the cocaine **HUNTER** distributed to him.

At sentencing, which is set for December 15, 2011, **HUNTER** faces up to 20 years imprisonment on Count One (drug charge) and a mandatory consecutive ten year term of imprisonment on Count Two (gun charge). He also faces up to five years of supervised release following incarceration and up to a \$1,000,000 fine.

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.