



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 9, 2011**

**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
HERBERT HADAD, ELLEN DAVIS,
CARLY SULLIVAN, JERIKA RICHARDSON
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(914) 993-1900/(212) 637-2600**

**FBI
TIM FLANNELLY, JIM MARGOLIN
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 384-2100**

**YONKERS POLICE DEPARTMENT
PATRICK MCCORMACK
(914) 377-7200**

**U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
CHARGES 65 YONKERS GANG MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES, AND OTHERS
WITH NARCOTICS AND FIREARMS OFFENSES**

Three Defendants Also Charged With Murder Of Rival Gang Member

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JANICE K. FEDARCYK, the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and EDMUND HARTNETT, Police Commissioner of the City of Yonkers, announced today the unsealing of five separate indictments charging a total of 65 defendants with a series of federal crimes, including murder, narcotics distribution, and firearms possession in Yonkers, New York. Fifty-nine of the defendants are members or associates of either the Elm Street Wolves or the Cliff Street Gangsters -- two street-gangs based in Yonkers, New York.

U.S. Attorney PREET BHARARA stated: "The federal charges unsealed today should make it crystal clear that if you join a gang or deal drugs or engage in violence in Yonkers, you are facing federal time now. Today's actions do not reflect any new law enforcement commitment -- rather, they reflect a longstanding and deeply-held belief that every community in the poison of drugs, gangs, and violence. We who police the streets

."

FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge JANICE K. FEDARCYK stated: "The Elm Street Wolves and Cliff Street Gangsters viciously defended their drug territories, at times aligning with each other against rival dealers, outsiders, and non-members. They retaliated against anyone who dared to encroach on their territory, and they brought murder, mayhem and fear to our communities. We are committed to eliminating the criminal enterprises that peddle poison and arm their sales force with guns. Whether you live in Yonkers or Scarsdale, Mt. Vernon or Mt. Kisco, you have a right to safety and security in your neighborhood."

Yonkers Police Commissioner EDMUND HARTNETT stated: "The issue of gangs and gang-related violence is not a local or regional matter. It's a national problem. While law enforcement must continue its efforts in the area of gang prevention, joint investigations such as this which disrupt and dismantle gangs from top to bottom are a very effective tool. This case will have a positive impact on this neighborhood; an immediate visible and tangible result will be evident. On behalf of the Mayor and the people of the City of Yonkers, we extend our gratitude to the U.S Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and to the FBI New York Office for their support, cooperation and collaboration in this investigation."

According to the Indictments unsealed today in White Plains federal court:

A 21-count indictment, United States v. Steven Knowles et. al., charges 47 members and associates of the Elm Street Wolves street-gang with multiple counts related to the distribution of crack cocaine, as well as firearm offenses. The Elm Street Wolves are a drug trafficking organization whose members have sold crack cocaine in the vicinity of Elm and Oak streets in Yonkers, New York, since at least 2000. Members and associates of the Elm Street Wolves worked together to ensure that they profited from the gang's crack sales. Members and associates of the Elm Street Wolves also shared firearms and used those firearms to protect the Wolves' territory from encroachment by rivals, including the Strip Boys and GMF gangs.

Forty-seven members and associates of the Elm Street Wolves -- STEVEN KNOWLES, MICHAEL ANDREWS, GLEN BASKET, JEROME BROOKS, ROBERT BRUCE, STANLEY BRUCE, MARCUS CHAMBERS, GERALD CHARLES, GERARD CHARLES, MICHAEL CLEMONS, QUEJUAN COLLINS, MICHAEL DENNIS, RAYVON DIAZ, JOSEPH DUQUESNE, JAMES EDMONSON, KYLE ELLISON, CHRISTOPHER GLIVENS, CHRISTOPHER GRANGER, DEXTER GRANGER, KAREEM GRANGER, RYAN GRANGER, DAQUAN GREENE, PAUL HARDY,

JASON HARRIS, TYREE HUGHES, WILLIE JACKSON, MARK JONES, RASHAD MCNULTY, DONTE MELVIN, ANTHONY NORTHOVER, MARCUS ODOM, DOMINICK PALLANO, SHAWN PATTERSON, DONALD PEGUES, DEXTER PICKETT, MARQUISE PICKETT, BERNARD POTILLO, TRAVIS ROBINSON, MARCUS SHEPPERD, ERIC SMITH, SHARIF STEWART, JAMES SUMMERS, SAMUEL SUTTON, DEXTER THOMAS, RONNELL THOMAS, EDWARD WHITNEY and ANDREW WILSON -- are charged with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine from 2000 through August 2011. Forty-one of these defendants are also charged with using, carrying, possessing and discharging firearms during the narcotics conspiracy. KNOWLES, one of the leaders of the Elm Street Wolves, and two other members, MICHAEL ANDREWS and DEXTER GRANGER, are also charged with the murder of Christopher Cokley, a member of a rival gang, on July 4, 2009.

A five-count indictment, United States v. Preston Hardy et al., charges 12 members and associates of the Cliff Street Gangsters with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine and marijuana, as well as firearms offenses. The Cliff Street Gangsters are a drug trafficking organization whose members have sold crack cocaine and high-grade marijuana in the vicinity of Cliff Street in Yonkers, New York since at least 2005. Like the Elm Street Wolves, members and associates of the Cliff Street Gangsters sold narcotics and shared firearms to protect their territory from encroachment by rival gangs. Twelve members and associates of the Cliff Street Gangsters -- PRESTON HARDY, JAMES GLOVER, MICHAEL GLOVER, TERRANCE GONZALEZ, JAMES HARDY, AUDAI HOWARD, JOSHUA JENKINS, TERRELL LUCAS, MIGUEL MARQUEZ, GENE THOMAS, SHAWN THOMAS and BRANDON WILLIAMS -- are charged with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine and marijuana from 2005 through August 2011. Eleven of these defendants are also charged with using, carrying, possessing and discharging firearms during the narcotics conspiracy. The Cliff Street Gangsters were aligned with the Elm Street Wolves in a long-running, violent dispute with members of the Strip Boys and GMF gangs. Certain members of the Elm Street Wolves and Cliff Street Gangsters committed acts of violence to protect their respective drug territory, including beatings, stabbings and shootings.

Two additional indictments, United States v. Hector Valentine, et al., and United States v. Michael Jones, charge four Yonkers residents with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine as well as substantive counts of possession and distribution of crack cocaine. HECTOR VALENTINE, LEONARD BAMBERG and RONALD CHANCE are charged with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine in Yonkers from October 2010 through May 2011, and with possessing crack cocaine with the intent to distribute the crack. MICHAEL JONES is charged with conspiring to distribute crack

crack with the intent to distribute.

A fifth indictment, United States v. Jonathan Harvey-Acquino, et al., charges two Yonkers residents with selling firearms. JONATHAN HARVEY-ACQUINO and BRANDEN JONES are charged with conspiring to distribute firearms and with selling two semi-automatic firearms in Yonkers from November 2010 through April 16, 2011.

Federal and local law enforcement officers executed court-authorized warrants today on 13 locations tied to many of the named defendants. During the arrests and searches, agents and officers seized a number of firearms, quantities of crack and marijuana, as well as cash from at least 11 individuals and

* * *

Sixty-two of the 65 defendants charged in the Indictments were arrested today or were previously in custody. The defendants arrested today are expected to be presented in White Plains federal court later this afternoon. A chart setting forth the charges in the Indictments and the applicable penalties is attached.

The Indictments are the result of a long-term investigation conducted by federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities working with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. In March 2009, this Office charged three members of the Elm Street Wolves -- GREGORY FULLER, DAVON YOUNG, and THOMAS CHAMBLISS -- with the January 2008 murder of a narcotics dealer in northern Yonkers. In January 2011, FULLER, YOUNG, and CHAMBLISS were each convicted after trial of murder, conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, robbery and firearms offenses. They are scheduled to be sentenced on September 29, 2011. In July 2011, LUZ RIVERA pled guilty to operating a stash apartment used by members of the Elm Street Wolves to package crack cocaine, and is awaiting sentencing.

This Office also charged DESHORN SHEALY, a member of the Cliff Street Gangsters, with conspiracy to distribute crack in October 2010. The case is pending.

Mr. BHARARA praised the outstanding investigative work of the FBI and the Yonkers Police Department. He also thanked the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Immigration and

Customs Enforcement, the New York State Police, the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, and the Westchester County District Attorney's Office for their assistance in the case. He added that the investigation is continuing.

The prosecution is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant U.S. Attorneys MICHAEL ENGLISH, ANDREW BAUER, and TELEMACHUS KASULIS are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictments are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

11-236

###

U.S. v. Steven Knowles, et al.

	CHARGE	DEFENDANTS	PENALTIES
1	Conspiracy to distribute 280 grams and more of crack cocaine	STEVEN KNOWLES MICHAEL ANDREWS GLEN BASKET JEROME BROOKS ROBERT BRUCE STANLEY BRUCE MARCUS CHAMBERS GERALD CHARLES GERARD CHARLES MICHAEL CLEMONS QUEJUAN COLLINS MICHAEL DENNIS RAYVON DIAZ JOSEPH DUQUESNE JAMES EDMONSON KYLE ELLISON CHRISTOPHER GLIVENS CHRISTOPHER GRANGER DEXTER GRANGER KAREEM GRANGER RYAN GRANGER DAQUAN GREENE PAUL HARDY JASON HARRIS TYREE HUGHES WILLIE JACKSON MARK JONES RASHAD MCNULTY DONTÉ MELVIN ANTHONY NORTHOVER MARCUS ODOM DOMINICK PALLANO SHAWN PATTERSON DONALD PEGUES DEXTER PICKETT MARQUISE PICKETT BERNARD POTILLO TRAVIS ROBINSON MARCUS SHEPPERD ERIC SMITH SHARIF STEWART JAMES SUMMERS SAMUEL SUTTON DEXTER THOMAS RONNELL THOMAS EDWARD WHITNEY ANDREW WILSON	Maximum: Life in prison Mandatory minimum: 10 years in prison

2	Using, carrying, possessing, and discharging a firearm	STEVEN KNOWLES MICHAEL ANDREWS JEROME BROOKS STANLEY BRUCE MARCUS CHAMBERS GERALD CHARLES GERARD CHARLES MICHAEL CLEMONS QUEJUAN COLLINS MICHAEL DENNIS RAYVON DIAZ JOSEPH DUQUESNE JAMES EDMONSON KYLE ELLISON CHRISTOPHER GLIVENS CHRISTOPHER GRANGER DEXTER GRANGER KAREEM GRANGER RYAN GRANGER DAQUAN GREENE JASON HARRIS TYREE HUGHES MARK JONES RASHAD MCNULTY DONTÉ MELVIN ANTHONY NORTHOVER MARCUS ODOM DOMINICK PALLANO SHAWN PATTERSON DONALD PEGUES DEXTER PICKETT MARQUISE PICKETT BERNARD POTILLO MARCUS SHEPPERD ERIC SMITH SHARIF STEWART JAMES SUMMERS SAMUEL SUTTON DEXTER THOMAS RONNELL THOMAS EDWARD WHITNEY	Maximum: Life in prison Consecutive mandatory minimum: 10 years in prison
3	Using a firearm to commit murder	STEVEN KNOWLES MICHAEL ANDREWS DEXTER GRANGER	Maximum: Life in prison
4	Conspiracy to commit robbery	DOMINICK PALLANO MARCUS SHEPPERD	Maximum: 20 years in prison
5	Robbery	DOMINICK PALLANO	Maximum: 20 years in prison

6	Using, carry, possessing, and brandishing a gun	DOMINICK PALLANO	Maximum: Life in prison Consecutive mandatory minimum: 7 years in prison
7	Robbery	MARCUS SHEPPERD	Maximum: 20 years in prison
8	Using, carry, possessing, and brandishing a gun	MARCUS SHEPPERD	Maximum: Life in prison Consecutive mandatory minimum: 7 years in prison
9	Distribution of crack cocaine	GERARD CHARLES	Maximum: 20 years in prison
10	Distribution of crack cocaine	GERARD CHARLES	Maximum: 20 years in prison
11	Distribution of crack cocaine	KAREEM GRANGER	Maximum: 20 years in prison
12	Distribution of crack cocaine	KAREEM GRANGER	Maximum: 20 years in prison
13	Distribution of crack cocaine	KYLE ELLISON PAUL HARDY	Maximum: 20 years in prison
14	Distribution of crack cocaine	ERIC SMITH	Maximum: 20 years in prison
15	Distribution of crack cocaine	ERIC SMITH	Maximum: 20 years in prison
16	Distribution of crack cocaine	JAMES SUMMERS	Maximum: 20 years in prison
17	Distribution of crack cocaine	JAMES SUMMERS	Maximum: 20 years in prison
18	Distribution of crack cocaine	JAMES SUMMERS	Maximum: 20 years in prison
19	Distribution of crack cocaine	SAMUEL SUTTON	Maximum: 20 years in prison
20	Distribution of crack cocaine	SAMUEL SUTTON	Maximum: 20 years in prison
21	Distribution of crack cocaine	RASHAD MCNULTY	Maximum: 20 years in prison

DEFENDANT	A/K/A	RESIDENCE	AGE
STEVEN KNOWLES	Manny Fresh	Yonkers	23
MICHAEL ANDREWS		Yonkers	24
GLEN BASKET	Big Mugs	Yonkers	32
JEROME BROOKS	Romy	Yonkers	30
ROBERT BRUCE	Rob Loose	Yonkers	24
STANLEY BRUCE	SB	Yonkers	23
MARCUS CHAMBERS	Chino	Yonkers	20
GERALD CHARLES	Twin	Yonkers	27
GERARD CHARLES	Twin	Yonkers	27
MICHAEL CLEMONS	Cartier	Yonkers	35
QUEJUAN COLLINS	Jigger	Yonkers	33
MICHAEL DENNIS		Yonkers	19
RAYVON DIAZ	CB	Yonkers	22
JOSEPH DUQUESNE	Joe Lite	Yonkers	26
JAMES EDMONSON	Dewey	Yonkers	21
KYLE ELLISON		Yonkers	28
CHRISTOPHER GLIVENS	Young Gunners	Bronx	26
CHRISTOPHER GRANGER	Crispy	New Rochelle	21
DEXTER GRANGER	Compton	Yonkers	22
KAREEM GRANGER	Reem	Yonkers	30
RYAN GRANGER	Ry-G	Yonkers	25
DAQUAN GREENE	Day Day	Yonkers	22
PAUL HARDY		Yonkers	22
JASON HARRIS	J-Rock	Bronx	29
TYREE HUGHES	Capo	Yonkers	24
WILLIE JACKSON	Wop	Yonkers	35
MARK JONES	Banger	Yonkers	20
RASHAD MCNULTY	Roger	Yonkers	34
DONTE MELVIN	Pudgy	Yonkers	23

ANTHONY NORTHOVER	Zimbabwe	Yonkers	25
MARCUS ODOM	Meech	Yonkers	29
DOMINICK PALLANO	Dom	Yonkers	23
SHAWN PATTERSON	SP	Yonkers	23
DONALD PEGUES	Vegas	Yonkers	25
DEXTER PICKETT	Dex Digs	Yonkers	21
MARQUISE PICKETT	Fresh Gualla	Yonkers	23
BERNARD POTILLO	Bernie	Yonkers	27
TRAVIS ROBINSON	730	Yonkers	31
MARCUS SHEPPERD	Do Dirt Pesci	Schenectady, NY	27
ERIC SMITH	E	Mt. Vernon	39
SHARIF STEWART	FUBU	Yonkers	33
JAMES SUMMERS	Smoke	Yonkers	32
SAMUEL SUTTON	Thug	Yonkers	33
DEXTER THOMAS	Dex	Yonkers	20
RONNELL THOMAS		Yonkers	31
EDWARD WHITNEY	Edro	Yonkers	31
ANDREW WILSON	Drew	Yonkers	34

U.S. v. Preston Hardy, et al.

	CHARGE	DEFENDANTS	PENALTIES
1	Conspiracy to distribute 280 grams and more of crack cocaine and 50 kilograms and more of marijuana	PRESTON HARDY JAMES GLOVER MICHAEL GLVOER TERRANCE GONZALEZ JAMES HARDY AUDAI HOWARD JOSHUA JENKINS TERRELL LUCAS MIGUEL MARQUEZ GENE THOMAS SHAWN THOMAS BRANDON WILLIAMS	Maximum: Life in prison Mandatory minimum: 10 years in prison

2	Using, Carrying, Possessing, and Discharging a Firearm	PRESTON HARDY JAMES GLOVER MICHAEL GLVOER TERRANCE GONZALEZ JAMES HARDY AUDAI HOWARD JOSHUA JENKINS TERRELL LUCAS MIGUEL MARQUEZ SHAWN THOMAS BRANDON WILLIAMS	Maximum: Life in prison Consecutive mandatory minimum: 10 years in prison
3	Distribution of 28 grams and more of crack cocaine	GENE THOMAS	Maximum: 40 years in prison Mandatory minimum: 5 years in prison
4	Distribution of crack cocaine	MIGUEL MARQUEZ	Maximum: 20 years in prison
5	Distribution of crack cocaine	MIGUEL MARQUEZ	Maximum: 20 years in prison

DEFENDANT	A/K/A	RESIDENCE	AGE
PRESTON HARDY	Peanut	Yonkers	22
JAMES GLOVER	Tone	Yonkers	19
MICHAEL GLOVER	Mike-Mike	Yonkers	21
TERRANCE GONZALEZ	Gucci Geeze	Yonkers	19
JAMES HARDY	Light	Yonkers	27
AUDAI HOWARD	Buck	Yonkers	20
JOSHUA JENKINS		Yonkers	21
TERRELL LUCAS	Ruger Rell	Yonkers	21
MIGUEL MARQUEZ	Mikey Corleone	Yonkers	26
GENE THOMAS	J-Biz	Yonkers	25
SHAWN THOMAS	Bigs	Yonkers	28
BRANDON WILLIAMS	Big Boy	Yonkers	18

U.S. v. Jonathan Harvey-Acquino, et al.

	<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>DEFENDANTS</u>	<u>PENALTIES</u>
1	Conspiracy to sell firearms	JONATHAN HARVEY-ACQUINO BRANDEN JONES	Maximum: 5 years in prison
2	Gun trafficking	JONATHAN HARVEY-ACQUINO BRANDEN JONES	Maximum: 10 years in prison
3	Gun trafficking	JONATHAN HARVEY-ACQUINO BRANDEN JONES	Maximum: 10 years in prison

DEFENDANT	A/K/A	RESIDENCE	AGE
JONATHAN HARVEY-ACQUINO	Gotti	Yonkers	20
BRANDEN JONES	Marlo	Yonkers	29

U.S. v. Hector Valentine, et al.

	CHARGE	DEFENDANTS	PENALTIES
1	Conspiracy to distribute 280 grams and more of crack cocaine	HECTOR VALENTINE LEONARD BAMBERG RONALD CHANCE	Maximum: Life in prison Mandatory minimum: 10 years in prison
2	Distribution of crack cocaine	RONALD CHANCE	Maximum: 20 years in prison
3	Distribution of crack cocaine	LEONARD BAMBERG HECTOR VALENTINE	Maximum: 20 years in prison
4	Distribution of crack cocaine	LEONARD BAMBERG	Maximum: 20 years in prison
5	Distribution of 28 grams and more of crack cocaine	HECTOR VALENTINE	Maximum: 40 years in prison Mandatory minimum: 5 years in prison
6	Distribution of crack cocaine	LEONARD BAMBERG	Maximum: 20 years in prison
7	Distribution of crack cocaine	RONALD CHANCE HECTOR VALENTINE	Maximum: 20 years in prison

DEFENDANT	A/K/A	RESIDENCE	AGE
HECTOR VALENTINE	Yiama	Yonkers	46
LEONARD BAMBERG	OG	Yonkers	26
RONALD CHANCE	Manzi	Yonkers	28

U.S. v. Michael Jones

A/K/A	RESIDENCE	AGE	CHARGE	PENALTIES
M.I.	Yonkers	32	1. Conspiracy to distribute 28 grams and more of crack cocaine	Maximum: 40 years in prison Mandatory minimum: 5 years in prison
			2. Distribution of crack cocaine	Maximum: 20 years in prison
			3. Distribution of crack cocaine	Maximum: 20 years in prison