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**NEW JERSEY MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR ROLE IN ARMED HOME INVASION IN PIERMONT, NEW YORK**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that PRESTON YOUNG, 66, of Palisades Park, New Jersey, was sentenced in White Plains federal court this morning to 121 months in prison following his conviction on federal conspiracy, robbery and weapons charges in connection with an armed invasion of a private home in Piermont, New York on June 5, 2002. The sentence was imposed by United States District Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON.

According to Complaints filed in the case, court records and his guilty plea, the armed home invasion was orchestrated and planned by YOUNG, Raymond Accolla, Michael Williamson, Daniel Soto and Daniel Feliciano. On the morning of June 5, 2002, YOUNG and his co-conspirators traveled to the home of Joseph Raso in Piermont. Upon arriving at the home, two of the robbers, Soto and Feliciano, entered Mr. Raso's home, where they brandished a loaded gun to conduct an armed robbery.

According to the Complaints, Soto and Feliciano tied up and restrained the individuals they found in the house, including Mr. Raso and two of Mr. Raso's house guests, with duct tape and neckties. Soto and Feliciano told Mr. Raso that he owed a debt, and one of the men made a threatening comment about one of Mr. Raso's children. While the two robbers were in the house, YOUNG was in contact with them, providing them with directions and instructions on how they should conduct the robbery and gain access to Mr. Raso's valuables.

According to the Complaints, as a result of the threatened physical violence, Mr. Raso identified a particular item in his home which contained jewelry and a substantial amount of cash, money that Mr. Raso had obtained through his interstate beer distribution company, Raso Beer Distributing, Inc. The robbers left Mr. Raso's home with over \$190,000 in cash and jewelry and then divided up the proceeds.

The perpetrators of this crime were identified after an investigation conducted jointly by numerous law enforcement agencies, including the Piermont and Clarkstown Police Departments and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In addition to YOUNG, the investigation has, to date, resulted in the prosecution and conviction of Accolla, Williamson, Feliciano and Soto. Previously, Accolla was sentenced to 174 months' imprisonment and Soto was sentenced to 96 months' imprisonment. Williamson and Feliciano are scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on September 28, 2006.

Mr. Garcia praised the investigative efforts of Piermont and Clarkstown Police Departments and the FBI.

Assistant United States Attorney JOHN P. COLLINS, JR. is in charge of the prosecution.

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