

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 29, 2008

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COUPLE CONVICTED OF DISTRIBUTING DRUGS IN THE BRONX AND WESTCHESTER COUNTY

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the conviction late yesterday of DONAHUE DEWAR and SHARON KING of participating in a conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana, distributing cocaine and marijuana, and possessing firearms in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, following a two-week jury trial before United States District Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON. According to the evidence at trial:

Between January 2003 and August 2005, DEWAR and KING operated a lucrative cocaine and marijuana dealing operation from their house on Mickle Avenue in the Bronx. DEWAR and KING's cocaine supplier shipped them multiple kilograms of cocaine at a time from Houston, Texas, packaged in hollowed-out computer parts, which DEWAR and KING then sold in the Bronx and Westchester County. The defendants also sold large amounts of marijuana that they obtained from Arizona.

DEWAR and KING were each arrested on August 28, 2005, in connection with a planned sale of three kilograms of cocaine in Pelham Manor, Westchester County, to a confidential informant working with the Harrison Police Department. Police seized the three kilograms of cocaine, then executed a search warrant for DEWAR and KING's Mickle Avenue house, where they found an additional kilogram of cocaine, several pounds of marijuana, large shipping drums that reeked of marijuana, approximately \$70,000 in cash, a high-tech surveillance system, four-loaded handguns, and other evidence.

DEWAR was found guilty of five counts: conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana, two counts of distributing cocaine, distributing marijuana, and a firearms charge. An additional firearms charge was dismissed.

KING was found guilty of four counts: conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana, distributing cocaine, distributing marijuana, and a firearms charge.

DEWAR is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on November 4, 2008, at 12:00 p.m., and KING is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on November 5, 2008, at 12:00 p.m. DEWAR faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years' imprisonment and a maximum potential sentence of life imprisonment. KING faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years' imprisonment and a maximum potential sentence of life imprisonment.

Mr. GARCIA praised the cooperative investigative efforts of the New York Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Strike Force and the Harrison Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorneys BRENT WIBLE and PERRY A. CARBONE are in charge of the prosecution.

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