

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

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CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

ROCHESTER MAN SENTENCED ON DRUG CHARGES

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Luther Dixon, 32, of Rochester, N.Y., who was convicted by a federal jury of possession of crack cocaine and powder cocaine with intent to distribute, was sentenced to 11 years in prison and six years supervised release by U.S. District Court Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Charles Moynihan and Craig Gestring, who handled the trial of the case, stated that in February of 2009, Dixon was stopped in the mini van he was driving for a vehicle and traffic violation. Officers had received a call earlier that Dixon was driving the vehicle and that it contained a controlled substance. When they came in contact with Dixon, officers smelled marijuana coming from van and subsequently placed the defendant in a patrol car. A search of the mini van uncovered a marijuana cigarette and a brown paper bag hidden in the center console which contained cocaine and crack cocaine. Officers also found two sandwich bags with 120 small ziplock baggies inside, each containing crack cocaine which had been packaged for sale. Analysis by the Monroe County Crime Lab determined that Dixon had at least five grams of cocaine base and approximately 14 grams of powder cocaine with a street value in excess of \$2,000. At trial, the jury rejected a defense claim that the drugs belonged to someone else.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of on the part of Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives under the direction of Scott Heagney, Resident Agent in Charge, and officers from the Rochester Police Department under the direction of Chief James Sheppard .

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