

# Department of Justice

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

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUNE 20, 2012  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw)

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

## **BUFFALO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGES**

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Kasen Shamar Turner, 29, of Buffalo, N.Y., pleaded guilty before Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny, to possession with intent to distribute cocaine base. The charge carries a mandatory minimum penalty of five years in prison, a maximum of 40 years, a \$5,000,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Catherine Baumgarten, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant possessed more than 56 grams of cocaine base on September 12, 2011, when the vehicle he was driving was stopped by Buffalo Police officers. Turner then fled from the scene, leading police on a high speed chase through the City of Buffalo.

The plea is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, the Erie County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Tim Howard, the Lackawanna Police Department, under the direction of Chief James Michel, and the Buffalo Police Department, under the direction of Commissioner Daniel Derenda.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 2, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., before Judge Skretny.

###