



Department of Justice

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DAYTON MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR OPERATING A CONTINUING CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE

DAYTON – Anthony “Tricky” Baltimore, 40, of Dayton was sentenced in United States District Court late yesterday to life imprisonment for leading a drug-trafficking organization that distributed hundreds of kilograms of marijuana, cocaine and heroin in southern Ohio and reached into Lexington, Kentucky.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Todd Spradling, Resident Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in Dayton, Jose Gonzalez, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation (IRS), Montgomery County Sheriff Phil Plummer and Dayton Police Chief Rick Biehl announced the sentence handed down yesterday by United States District Judge Walter H. Rice.

A jury convicted Baltimore on November 24, 2009 at the conclusion of a five-week trial. The jury convicted Baltimore of four crimes: one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine, heroin, and marijuana; one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense; one count of conspiracy to launder money; and one count of engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise.

Testimony presented from more than 60 witnesses during the trial included evidence that Baltimore was responsible for bringing in large quantities of cocaine from California, marijuana from Texas and heroin from Washington, D.C. Baltimore also operated a number of businesses including an automobile dealership, Prestige Imports of Dayton, as a way to conceal the proceeds from the drug trafficking crimes. Baltimore was also involved in at least two shootings in connection with the drug trafficking, including hiring someone to shoot a drug customer who refused to pay him.

Testimony also showed that Baltimore used the proceeds of the drug trafficking to support Baltimore Properties. He bought eight pieces of real estate in the Cincinnati area using the name of his 85-year old grandmother and received kickbacks at closing from the loan proceeds. Baltimore made false statements on loan applications to buy the properties at inflated prices.

Baltimore has been in federal custody since his arrest by DEA agents on October 29, 2007.

Stewart commended the cooperative investigation by DEA and IRS, Montgomery County Sheriff's Deputies and Dayton Police officers, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robert Brichler and William Schenck, who prosecuted the case.

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