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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 8, 2011
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HUNTINGTON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – William Raeshaun Byrd, 20, of Huntington, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to being a felon in possession of a firearm. On or about December 23, 2009, an officer from the Huntington Police Department responded to a report of gunshots in the vicinity of a 16th Street, Huntington convenience store. Byrd, who was at the scene during that time, observed the responding officer and fled into the store. As the officer pursued, Byrd admitted to tossing a Glock Model 19, 9mm semiautomatic pistol to the ground. The officer subsequently detained Byrd and secured the weapon. The police also found two small individually wrapped baggies of cocaine base and a small amount of marijuana during a search incident to the arrest. Byrd was convicted of a felonious offense of wanton endangerment on or about May 11, 2009, in the Circuit Court of Cabell County, West Virginia and has not had his civil rights to possess a firearm restored.

A joint investigation was conducted by members of the Huntington Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Byrd faces up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 when he is sentenced on May 23, 2011.

DETROIT MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Curtis Lavall Capers, 21, of Detroit, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to the possession with intent to distribute a quantity of oxycodone. From at least the summer of 2007 through on or about September 2, 2010, Capers admitted to engaging in the distribution of certain controlled substances including cocaine base and oxycodone. At some time prior to January 11, 2010, Capers joined an organization known as the “Cash Out Crips” (C.O.C.). This organization was largely comprised of individuals from the Detroit area, who were involved in drug trafficking and distribution operation in and around the Huntington area.

On or about February 5, 2009, Capers distributed approximately 8.62 grams of cocaine base to an informant working for the Huntington Violent Crimes and Drug Task Force (HVCDTF). Members of the HVCDTF executed a search warrant at an apartment on or about January 11, 2010, used by the “Cash Out Crips” where police seized 490 grams of cocaine base, approximately 122 oxycodone tablets (80 mg each), digital scales, 17 firearms and various types of ammunition. An investigation revealed that Capers’ fingerprints were found on a magazine for one of the firearms. Capers also admitted to selling 3 oxycodone tablets (80 mg each) to an informant working for the Cabell County Sheriff’s Office. On or about September 2, 2010, police arrested Capers during an arranged drug buy with an informant. Police recovered approximately 67 oxycodone tablets (80 mg each) from Capers’ person along with a Sturm, Ruger & Co. 9 mm semiautomatic pistol from his vehicle. Capers also admitted to distributing

quantities of oxycodone to various individuals in and around the Huntington area from March 2010 through September 2, 2010.

Capers faces up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1 million at when he is sentenced on May 23, 2011.

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