



Department of Justice

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**FELON ON FEDERAL SUPERVISED RELEASE FOR BANK ROBBERY IS
SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR ROLE IN DRUG CONSPIRACY**

Tampa, FL- U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that U.S. District Judge James D. Whittemore yesterday sentenced Dennis James Johnson (47, Tampa) to 20 years in federal prison for conspiracy to possess 5 kilograms or more of cocaine with the intent to distribute and carrying, or possessing a firearm during and in relation to or in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Dennis James Johnson pled guilty on May 11, 2011.

According to court documents, Johnson and his co-conspirator, Kenneth Madden, agreed and planned to commit a robbery of 20-50 kilograms of cocaine. Johnson and Madden were arrested prior to committing the robbery and Johnson was in possession of a loaded Smith and Wesson firearm. At the time of arrest, Johnson was on federal supervised release from a prior bank robbery conviction.

Madden was convicted by a federal jury on June 8, 2011 for his role in the case. His sentencing hearing is set for September 12, 2011 at 1:30 pm before Judge Whittemore.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Stacie B. Harris and Lisset G. Hanewicz.

This is another case prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice's "Project

Safe Neighborhoods” program - a nationwide, gun-violence reduction strategy led by ATF. United States Attorney Robert E. O’Neill, along with Virginia O’Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Tampa Field Division, is coordinating the Project Safe Neighborhoods effort here in the Middle District of Florida in cooperation with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials.