

For Immediate Release  
August 30, 2011

**JAMAICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO 97 MONTHS FOR  
FEDERAL MARIJUANA TRAFFICKING CONVICTION**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court in Santa Fe, a United States District Judge sentenced **Norman Washington Berry**, a 40-year-old Jamaican citizen, to a 97-month term of imprisonment for his conviction on a marijuana trafficking offense. After completing his prison sentence, Berry will be deported.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that, on April 13, 2011, a federal jury found Berry guilty of possessing more than 100 kilograms of marijuana with intent to distribute after a three day trial. According to court filings and the evidence presented at trial, Berry was arrested on May 23, 2007, after officers of the New Mexico Motor Transportation Police Division, New Mexico Department of Public Safety Department, found 33 bundles of marijuana weighing an aggregate of 175 kilograms (381 pounds) in Berry's tractor-trailer during a routine inspection at the Gallup Port of Entry located around mile marker 12 on Eastbound I-40.

Court records reflect that following Berry's arrest, he was released under pretrial supervision pending trial on May 27, 2007. Berry was indicted on June 13, 2007. Proceedings in the case were stayed beginning in May 2008, when Berry fled the United States. Proceedings resumed in November 2010, when Berry was returned to the United States after waiving formal extradition from in Canada. Berry has been in federal custody since that time.

The case was investigated by the New Mexico Motor Transportation Police Division of New Mexico Department of Public Safety and the Drug Enforcement Administration, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Joel R. Meyers and Linda Mott.

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