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TWO SENTENCED ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

CHARLESTON, W. Va. -- Derek Webster, 52, of Charleston, West Virginia was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge Thomas E. Johnson to 42 months in prison for distributing cocaine base. Webster previously pleaded guilty on January 5, 2010.

Webster's conviction stems from an investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Metropolitan Drug Enforcement Network Team (MDENT) involving local crack dealers supplied by sources in Columbus, Ohio. On June 1 and 4, 2009, Webster sold an ounce of cocaine base to a confidential informant at locations in Charleston. On June 9, 2009, Webster was stopped by task force agents while en route to meet the informant for a third deal, and police recovered in excess of 40 grams of crack cocaine from Webster. A subsequent search warrant executed at Webster's residence yielded additional quantities of controlled substances, more than \$11,000 in cash, two shotguns, a loaded 9mm pistol, and two vehicles.

In an unrelated case, Sharon Kay Hanna, 57, of Nettie, Nicholas County, West Virginia was sentenced yesterday by Judge Johnston to 28 months in prison for maintaining her residence for the distribution, use, and storage of controlled substances. Hanna pleaded guilty to the federal drug charge on September 8, 2010.

Hanna's conviction is the result of a long-term investigation by the Central West Virginia Drug Task Force and the Federal Bureau of Investigation into oxycodone distribution in and around Nicholas County. From 2007 to 2008, task force agents used informants to purchase controlled substances, including oxycodone and methadone, from Hanna and other individuals residing in the Hanna residence. Hanna's sons, Terry Lee Hughes and Jeremy Lee Hanna, were previously convicted of drug and firearms charges as a part of the investigation. Hughes was convicted by a jury in August 2009 of distributing oxycodone and possessing firearms during and in relation to drug trafficking, and he was sentenced to 93 months in prison. Jeremy Lee Hanna was sentenced in January 2010 to 70 months in prison for distributing methadone and for being a felon in possession of firearms.

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