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**BREAUX BRIDGE, LA MAN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT
FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES**

*Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Investigation
Code Named "Operation Sport Zone"*

LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA . . . A member of a major drug trafficking organization based in Breaux Bridge and Lafayette, Louisiana was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison today, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced. Jacory Jamar Simon, 21, of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, was sentenced by United States District Judge Rebecca F. Doherty for conspiracy to distribute crack and powder cocaine.

Jacory Simon and nine others were indicted last year on a variety of drug trafficking and firearms charges. In June 2009, Simon pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute crack and powder cocaine. Simon admitted to being part of a drug trafficking organization that brought cocaine and other drugs from Houston, Texas into Louisiana for distribution throughout the Acadiana area, and then transported the monetary profits back to Houston. Simon further admitted that the conspiracy involved more than five kilograms of cocaine, a portion of which was converted into more than 50 grams of cocaine base or "crack."

Five of Simon's co-defendants have previously pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing. The remaining four co-defendants are scheduled for trial on May 10, 2010.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. United States Sentencing Guidelines established by the United States Congress and the United States Sentencing Commission are only used as guidelines by the judge in determining the appropriate sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

The investigation, code-named “Sport Zone,” was conducted by the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), a joint, multi-agency group consisting of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, Lafayette, Louisiana, Iberia Parish Sheriff’s Office, Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office, Lafayette Police Department, Vermilion Parish Sheriff’s Office, St. Mary Parish Sheriff’s Office, Acadia Parish Sheriff’s Office, St. Landry Parish Sheriff’s Office, Opelousas Police Department and the Louisiana National Guard.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Brett L. Grayson and Collin Sims.

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