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THIRTEEN FACE FEDERAL INDICTMENT FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND FIREARMS OFFENSES IN RUSTON AND MONROE, LOUISIANA

Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Operation: "Old School"

SHREVEPORT, La.: Thirteen defendants were indicted on drug trafficking and felony firearms charges related to the organized distribution of more than 5 kilograms of powder cocaine and more than 50 grams of crack cocaine in the Ruston and Monroe, Louisiana areas, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today. The indictment is part of an 18-month investigation conducted jointly by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies fanned out over the area this morning and arrested six of the defendants, all of whom will appear today in United States District Court in Shreveport for an initial appearance, except one defendant who was arrested in Houston. Four defendants remain at large. Two of the defendants turned themselves in today, and one defendant has been in custody on state charges since May 27, 2009. A complete list of the defendants and the charges is attached.

The indictment, unsealed today, is the third installment of charges that resulted from Operation "Old School" conducted by the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task (OCDETF).

(More)

OCDETF is a joint federal, state and local cooperative approach to combat drug trafficking, and in this case involved the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Louisiana State Police, Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office, Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office, Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office, Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office, Ruston Police Department, Monroe Police Department, West Monroe Police Department and Shreveport Police Department. With today's indictment, Operation "Old School" has now resulted in federal drug charges filed against a total of 26 defendants.

If convicted, the defendants face a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and a maximum penalty of life in prison for both conspiracy to distribute crack and powder cocaine. Distribution of more than 5 grams of crack cocaine carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years in prison and a maximum penalty of 40 years. The charge of felon in possession of a firearm carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. Each count also carries the possibility of a maximum \$250,000 fine.

A criminal indictment is merely an accusation. A defendant is presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James G. Cowles, Jr.

(See Fact Sheet Attached)

FACT SHEET:

HERBERT V. GOLDSMITH, aka Unc or Kinfolk, age 45, of Houston, Tx., was arrested today in Houston. He is charged with 2 counts of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

SHEDRICK GREEN, III, aka Lil' Shed, age 25, of Ruston, La., was arrested today in Ruston. He is charged with 2 counts of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

DWIGHT D. JACKSON, aka D-Boy or Big Head, age 35, of Ruston, La., was arrested today in Ruston. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

MICHAEL F. MOORE, aka Big Boy, age 44, of Monroe, La., turned himself in today. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

JOHNTAVIOUS A. SLATON, age 28, of Ruston, La., was arrested today in Ruston. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and 1 count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

JAMES T. HARRISON, aka Tinky, age 42, of Ruston, La., was arrested today in Ruston. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

BRIAN S. MOSS, age 38, of Ruston, La., was arrested on May 27, 2009 on state charges. He is charged in this federal indictment with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and 1 count of felon in possession of a firearm.

CARLOS G. MOORE, aka Gan, age 34, of Ruston, La., turned himself in today. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

MICHAEL C. WILLIAMS, aka Big Mike, age 56, of Ruston, La., was arrested today in Ruston. He is charged with 1 count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

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