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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, February 23, 2010
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JURY CONVICTS MINDEN MAN OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

347 Grams of Crack Cocaine Seized at Greyhound Bus Station

Shreveport, La.: Al Deangelo Cooper, 35, of Minden, La., was convicted by a federal jury on one count each of conspiracy to possess and possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, Acting United States Attorney William J. Flanagan announced today.

According to court testimony, the Drug Enforcement Administration received a tip from the Minden Police Department that Cooper was scheduled to receive approximately seven ounces of crack cocaine on a Greyhound bus from Dallas. DEA agents set up surveillance on the bus station and subsequently observed Richard Rogers exit the bus carrying a white fast food bag and get into Cooper's vehicle. Agents stopped Cooper's vehicle before it left the bus station and seized 347 grams of crack cocaine. The cocaine had a street value of \$20,000.

Cooper was arrested along with Richard Delefonta Rogers, 34, of Minden, La., in June 2009. Rogers previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges and was sentenced to 240 months in prison and 10 years of supervised release.

Cooper is scheduled for sentencing on June 16, 2010. He faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

The case was investigated by Special Agent Hank Haynes of the Shreveport Offices of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Minden Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Alexander C. Van Hook and Robin S. McCoy.

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