

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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HEAD OF ROCHESTER DRUG RING; CO-DEFENDANT SENTENCED

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that James Douchette a/k/a Jigga, 36, of Rochester, N.Y., who was convicted of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribution of five kilograms or more of cocaine and 50 grams or more of crack cocaine, and possession and discharge of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, was sentenced to 18 years in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Charles J. Siragusa. Co-defendant Jayson Davidson, a/k/a Boog, who was convicted of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine, was sentenced to 84 months in prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Marangola, who handled the case, stated that between January 2005 and March 2010, the defendants conspired with 10 others to possess and distribute powder cocaine and crack cocaine in the Rochester area. Douchette was the head of the Rochester-based violent cocaine trafficking organization which was involved in arranging the interstate shipment of multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine from Florida to Rochester, carrying and using firearms to facilitate the cocaine trafficking, the breakdown and packaging of smaller quantities of powder cocaine and crack cocaine for resale, direct distribution of cocaine and crack cocaine to others, and facilitating third party purchases of cocaine and crack cocaine.

Douchette and Davidson were arrested along with 10 others in March and April 2010. They were the eighth and ninth defendants to be sentenced.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives under the direction of Scott Heagney, Resident Agent in Charge, the Rochester Police under the direction of Chief James Sheppard and the Monroe County District Attorney's Office.