

# Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.  
Western District of New York

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## **TONAWANDA MAN INDICTED ON DRUG CHARGES**

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal grand jury has returned an Indictment charging Kasen Shamar Turner, 28, of Tonawanda, N.Y., with possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine. The charge carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years in prison and maximum of life, and \$8,000,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Catherine Baumgarten, who is handling the case, stated that on September 12, 2011, law enforcement officers observed the defendant with approximately 56 grams of crack cocaine.

The Indictment is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, the Erie County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Tim Howard, the Lackawanna Police Department, under the direction of Chief James Michel, and the Buffalo Police Department, under the direction of Commissioner Daniel Derenda.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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