



## U. S. Department of Justice

*Jason R. Coody*  
*United States Attorney*  
*Northern District of Florida*

---

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

United States Attorney's Office  
Northern District of Florida  
(850) 216-3845  
[libby.lastinger@usdoj.gov](mailto:libby.lastinger@usdoj.gov)  
Follow us on Twitter | @NDFLnews

### **CAREER OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND FIREARM OFFENSES**

**PENSACOLA, FLORIDA** – Charles Edward Rowe, 40, of Pensacola, Florida, was sentenced to thirty years in federal prison after pleading guilty to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The sentence was announced by Jason R. Coody, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Florida.

“Those who repeatedly commit serious crimes are deserving of significant prison sentences,” said U.S. Attorney Coody. “This career criminal has demonstrated his unwillingness to abide by the law, committing repeated drug crimes. Given the outstanding work of our state, local, and federal law enforcement partners, he will no longer be distributing drugs in our community.”

On July 27, 2021, as part of an ongoing investigation, the Escambia County Sheriff's Office Gun Crimes Unit and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives executed a search warrant at a Pensacola hotel. Rowe, a Career Offender with several violent and narcotics-related prior convictions, was found in possession of distribution amounts of various controlled substances, including over two kilograms of pills containing methamphetamine, crystal methamphetamine, cocaine, cocaine base, and marijuana, as well as a loaded Smith & Wesson 9mm pistol and a loaded Hi-Point .40 caliber pistol. At the time of his arrest, Rowe was on state probation for Grand Theft, Felony Battery, and Domestic Battery by Strangulation.

Assistant United States Attorney Amanda Gordon prosecuted the case, which resulted from a joint investigation by the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and gun violence, and to make our neighborhoods safer for everyone. On May 26, 2021, the Department launched a violent crime reduction strategy strengthening PSN based on these core principles: fostering trust and legitimacy in our communities, supporting community-based organizations that help prevent violence from occurring in the first place, setting focused and strategic enforcement priorities, and measuring the results.

As part of its PSN strategy, the United States Attorney's Office is encouraging everyone to lock their car doors, particularly at night. Burglaries from unlocked automobiles are a significant source of guns for criminals in the Northern District of Florida. Please do your part and protect yourself by locking your car doors.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida is one of 94 offices that serve as the nation's principal litigators under the direction of the Attorney General. To access public court documents online, please visit the [U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida](#) website. For more information about the United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Florida, visit <http://www.justice.gov/usao/fln/index.html>.

###