



# Department of Justice

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## **PRISON TIME ORDERED IN TUSCALOOSA I.C.E. CASES**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL** - Today in U.S. District Court three men were sentenced to federal prison as the result of Alabama 'ICE' (*Isolate the Criminal Element*) in Tuscaloosa County.

"Today's cases are an outstanding utilization of federal laws by local law enforcement that will make a difference in Tuscaloosa communities," stated U.S. Attorney Alice H. Martin. Felons and drug users are again forewarned that those who persist in illegally possessing weapons will serve significant jail sentences."

Amos Harris, 28 and Cedric Bernard Myles, 21, both of Tuscaloosa, were indicted in June 2007 and charged with possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine. Harris was additionally charged with being in possession of stolen firearms. Harris was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison and Myles was sentenced to seventy months in federal prison. Both were ordered five years of supervised release upon completion of their prison time.

In August 2006, the West Alabama Narcotics Task Force executed a search warrant at a residence occupied by Harris and Myles. Agents recovered 47 grams of crack cocaine, 15 grams of powder cocaine, 58 grams of Marijuana and 3 ecstasy pills along with digital scales, and U.S. Currency. Agents also recovered five firearms in the residence, three of which they discovered had been reported as stolen. Both men pled guilty in July 2007.

Also sentenced today in a separate unrelated case was Tyrone Billips, 25, also of Tuscaloosa. He was charged with being a drug user in possession of a firearm in June 2007, and was sentenced today to serve 70 months in federal prison. In July 2004,

Tuscaloosa Police Officers responded to a domestic disturbance call, when they arrived they discovered Billips in possession of a Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, and small amounts of Marijuana and crack cocaine. Billips admitted to smoking crack cocaine. He also pled guilty to these charges in July 2007.

“One of our top goals is to stop gun violence by taking illegal firearms and drugs out of our communities. With the help of our federal partners we are making the goal a reality,” stated Tuscaloosa Police Chief Ken Swindle.

“Today’s sentences include recent ICE efforts on cases focused on illegal firearms and illegal drugs,” stated James M. Cavanaugh, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. “Any time guns, drugs and violence threaten the community, ATF and it’s law enforcement partners will concentrate efforts to get these people off the streets and have them aggressively prosecuted.”

These cases were investigated separately by the Tuscaloosa Police Department and The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorneys William G. Simpson and Scarlet Singleton prosecuted these cases on behalf of the U.S. Government.

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