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LANSING CRACK DEALER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Jumal George Jones, 36, of Wichita, Kansas, was sentenced yesterday to 15 years in federal prison for possession with intent to distribute over 50 grams of crack cocaine and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, U.S. Attorney Charles R. Gross announced today.

Jones pled guilty to the charges on December 5, 2007, which stemmed from the November 1, 2006 execution of a search warrant at a crack house in Lansing, Michigan. The Lansing Police Department obtained a narcotics search warrant for the property after a confidential informant purchased a quantity of crack cocaine from Jones inside the property. During the search of the property, officers located drug paraphernalia and encountered several crack cocaine users, who identified Jones, a former resident of Chicago who transported crack cocaine to the Lansing area for sale, as their source of crack cocaine. The search of Jones' vehicle revealed over 90 grams of crack cocaine. At the time of the search, Jones carried a loaded .22 caliber handgun with obliterated serial numbers. Jones was indicted by a federal grand jury last August.

In addition to 180 months in prison, Senior U.S. District Judge Gordon J. Quist ordered

Jones to serve five years of supervised release and to pay \$200 in special assessments.

U.S. Attorney Gross commended the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Lansing Police Department for their work in the case. Their joint investigation was undertaken as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative. This case was prosecuted on behalf of the United States of America by Assistant U.S. Attorney Elisa Castrolugo.

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