



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2008
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**LOUISVILLE DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR
POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE CRACK COCAINE**

-Drugs had a street value of almost \$6,000

LOUISVILLE, KY - Lennelle Anthony McKnight, age 20, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

Charles R. Simpson III, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced McKnight to four years' supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

McKnight, who pled guilty on February 1, 2007, acknowledged that he possessed the crack cocaine with the intent to distribute it.

On March 21, 2006, Louisville Metro Police (LMPD) Officers requested and received permission from the defendant's mother (who was the record owner of the property) to search the home in Louisville because LMPD had received numerous complaints of drug trafficking from that premises. During the search, officers found 30.048 grams of crack cocaine (with a street value of approximately \$300) along with \$5,616. in U.S. currency, digital scales, and plastic

baggies in McKnight's bedroom.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert J. Kilmartin. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives conducted the investigation in partnership with the Louisville Metro Police Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

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