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**BALTIMORE ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL SENTENCED TO OVER 13 YEARS
IN PRISON FOR BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today Chief U.S. District Judge Benson E. Legg sentenced Donald Richardson, age 42, of Baltimore to 165 months in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Richardson was sentenced as an armed career criminal based on his previous convictions in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City of rape in 1990, attempted murder in 1985 and unarmed robbery in 1981.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court on December 15, 2004, Richardson had a loaded .9mm caliber Smith and Wesson pistol in his home on Druid Hill Avenue. The firearm was recovered by police during the execution of a search warrant along with quantities of heroin, cocaine and cocaine base (crack).

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Baltimore City Police Department for their investigation in this case. Mr. Rosenstein also praised Assistant United States Attorney James Warwick, who prosecuted the case.