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**WALDORF WOMAN SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS FOR DRUG CONSPIRACY**

GREENBELT, Maryland - Melissa Headley, age 37 of Waldorf, Maryland, was sentenced today to ten years in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release for conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute more than 5 kilograms of cocaine and more than 50 grams of crack, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to the statement of facts presented at her December 16, 2005 guilty plea, beginning in January 2003, Headley conspired with Lester Fletcher and others to distribute cocaine and crack. Two of Headley's residences, on D'Arcy Road and Pennsylvania Avenue, were narcotics distribution locations for the Fletcher organization. While working at these locations, Headley sold powder and crack cocaine, assisted in the preparation of crack cocaine, and assisted in the distribution and delivery of both powder and crack cocaine. Headley worked for the Fletcher organization for more than ten years and was directly involved in the distribution of between five and 15 kilos of powder cocaine, and between 50 and 150 grams of crack cocaine.

Fletcher, age 51, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland was convicted on May 8, 2006 after a two week trial. He faces a maximum sentence of life and a \$4 million fine for conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine; a minimum mandatory term of imprisonment of 20 years on each count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine; a maximum term of 20 years in prison for money laundering conspiracy; and 20 years on each count of money laundering. U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte scheduled sentencing for July 19, 2006.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Prince George's County Police Department for their investigative work performed in this case. Mr. Rosenstein also praised Assistant United States Attorneys David I. Salem and Gina L. Simms who prosecuted the case.