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Southern District of Indiana**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TWENTY-SIX INDICTED IN  
EVANSVILLE AREA  
CRACK COCAINE TRAFFICKING CASE**

Two Indictments Unsealed This Morning

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that a Southern District of Indiana federal grand jury indicted 26 individuals for trafficking powder and crack cocaine in the Evansville area. Two indictments were unsealed today in U.S. District Court in Evansville. Approximately 150 law enforcement officers participated in the execution of arrest warrants and over fourteen search warrants related to the investigation. These warrants were executed on residences and individuals in Evansville, Indiana, Henderson, Kentucky, Owensboro, Kentucky, Louisville, Kentucky, and Chicago, Illinois.

Leading the joint investigation were the FBI-Evansville Safe Streets Task Force and DEA-Evansville. FBI-Evansville Safe Streets Task Force was created in 2006 to combat violent crime in the Evansville area. The Task Force consists of FBI agents working with Evansville Police Department detectives to investigate federal crimes in Evansville. In early 2007, FBI Safe Streets received information from multiple sources that a group of individuals, some with violent criminal histories and ties to street gangs, were distributing large amounts of crack cocaine in Evansville. In Spring 2007, FBI Safe Streets and DEA-Evansville launched "Operation Tombstone" to target and dismantle the drug trafficking organization. Today's indictments and arrests are the culmination of that eight month investigation. U.S. Attorney Susan Brooks commended the work of the FBI Safe Streets Task Force and the DEA Task Force in this investigation, "when the community raised its concerns about drugs and violence, I'm proud that federal law enforcement stepped in to make the streets and neighborhoods of Evansville safer."

Assisting in the investigation were the United States Marshals Service, the Evansville Vanderburgh County Drug Task Force, the Evansville Police Department, the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department, and the Indiana State Police. In addition to these agencies, DEA-Louisville, DEA-Indianapolis, FBI-Indianapolis, and the Warrick County Sheriff's Department, assisted in the execution of search and arrest warrants.

The joint investigation lasted for eight months and included the confiscation of approximately \$130,000 worth of cocaine and cocaine base. All told, law enforcement seized and purchased close to nine hundred (900) grams of “ crack” cocaine and approximately one-half kilogram of powder cocaine from members of the conspiracies. The fourteen search warrants executed today yielded United States currency; multiple firearms, to include an assault pistol; and various amounts of controlled substances, including crack cocaine.

The investigation revealed two distinct cocaine and cocaine base trafficking organizations. The indictments charge twenty-six individuals as follows:

The first indictment is regarding the drug trafficking organization lead by Jeremy Simmons and charges eight individuals with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute five hundred (500) grams or more of cocaine and fifty (50) grams or more of cocaine base (a.k.a. “ crack”) cocaine. The individuals charged in this indictment are as follows:

- JEREMY SIMMONS (a.k.a. “ Chicago Mike”), 31, currently of Henderson, Kentucky (formally from Chicago, IL)
- MAURICE MABRON (a.k.a. “ Stanley Pike,” “ Reece”), 29, of Evansville
- BRIAN JONES (a.k.a. “ Big B”), 30, of Evansville
- LEONARD HOSKINS, (a.k.a. “ Pooh”), 28, of Evansville
- SAM COOK, 36, of Evansville
- LAMONT ROBINSON, 30, of Evansville
- MITCHELL MCGHEE, 29, of Evansville
- TANISHA WEST, 27, of Evansville

The second indictment is regarding the drug trafficking organization lead by David Neighbors and charges eighteen (18) individuals with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine and fifty (50) grams or more of cocaine base (a.k.a. “ crack” cocaine). The individuals charged in this indictment are as follows:

- THOMAS PERKINS, 29, of Louisville
- DAVID NEIGHBORS (a.k.a. “ Vato”), 25, of Evansville
- LATREANCE TAYLOR (a.k.a. “ Three Ts”), 29, of Evansville
- LAFREDERICK TAYLOR (a.k.a. “ Dookie”), 31, of Evansville
- MAURICE NICHOLSON (a.k.a. “ Putsie”), 24, of Evansville
- JADRION GRIFFIN, 29 (a.k.a. “ Teese”), of Evansville (formerly from South Bend)
- KEREEM DAVIDOVIC (a.k.a. “ Red”), 29, of Evansville (formerly of South Bend)
- KAMAL SIMS (a.k.a. “ Mal”), 23, of Evansville
- KESHAUN HORNE (a.k.a. “ Kam”), 24, of Evansville
- DERRICK STANFIELD (a.k.a. “ D”), 31, of Evansville
- ANTONIO MILES (a.k.a. “ Tonio”), 23, of Evansville
- JASON KIRK, 24, of Evansville

- JAMES BROWN (a.k.a. “Bonton”), 25, of Owensboro
- TREVOR PERRY, 30, of Evansville
- JEROME STARKS, 33, of Evansville
- CHARLES CLEMENTS, 43, of Evansville
- DIMITRAI CABELL, 25, of Evansville
- JASON HORNE, 28, of Evansville

The “Jeremy Simmons” Organization indictment alleges that the defendants were engaged in conspiring to bring cocaine to Evansville from Chicago, Illinois. After the cocaine arrived in Evansville, the conspirators distributed the drug in the Evansville community primarily as “crack” cocaine. The “David Neighbors” Organization indictment alleges that the defendants were engaged in conspiring to bring cocaine and cocaine base to Evansville primarily from Louisville, Kentucky. The conspirators then distributed the cocaine primarily as “crack” cocaine in the Evansville community.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthias D. Onderak, who is prosecuting the case for the government, all twenty-six defendants, if convicted, face possible prison sentences up to life without parole. The possible sentences for JEREMY SIMMONS, MAURICE MABRON, BRIAN JONES, LEONARD HOSKINS, SAM COOK, MITCHELL MCGHEE, THOMAS PERKINS, DAVID NEIGHBORS, KAREEM DAVIDOVIC, JAMES BROWN, TREVOR PERRY, and DIMITRAI CABELL, are mandatory life imprisonment without parole. The possible sentences for LATREANCE TAYLOR, LAFREDERICK TAYLOR, JADRION GRIFFIN, KAMAL SIMS, DERRICK STANFIELD, JASON KIRK, and JASON HORNE are a mandatory minimum 20 years imprisonment up to life. The possible sentences for LAMONT ROBINSON, TANISHA WEST, MAURICE NICHOLSON, KESHAUN HORNE, ANTONIO MILES, JEROME STARKS, and CHARLES CLEMENTS are a mandatory minimum 10 years imprisonment up to life.

Initial hearings began this morning for some of the defendants before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville.

The indictments are an allegation only, and all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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