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Cocaine Trafficker/Money Launderer Receives 121 Month Federal Sentence

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced today that **Timothy Pulk**, 46, of Sabattus, Maine was sentenced today in U.S. District Court to 121 months in prison, and 5 years Supervised Release. U.S. District Court Judge George Z. Singal imposed the sentence following Pulk's guilty plea entered on May 25, 2007 – at which time Pulk pled guilty to distribution and possession with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine and money laundering. In addition, Judge Singal ordered Pulk to forfeit real estate and personal property, including his residence, worth approximately half a million dollars.

Pulk was arrested in July 2006 following a 16-month-long investigation. Court records show that from approximately 2002 through 2005, Pulk was the leader of a conspiracy that obtained kilograms of cocaine from Texas that were then brought to Maine where the cocaine was distributed. The evidence showed that members of the conspiracy brought over five (5) kilograms of cocaine from Texas to Maine.

Court records further show that Pulk and others, including his mother, father, and wife, assisted Pulk in laundering the proceeds of his drug trafficking. Pulk and his mother and father bought real estate in Maine with the proceeds from drug trafficking. James and Elaine Pulk, Timothy Pulk's parents, previously were convicted and sentenced for their involvement in this money laundering activity. Angela Sargent, Timothy Pulk's wife, has pleaded guilty to drug and money laundering charges relating to the same conduct; her sentencing is scheduled for early next year.

As a result of today's sentencing, Pulk was ordered to forfeit this real estate and other assets he obtained with the drug proceeds.

U.S. Attorney Paula Silsby praised the investigative efforts of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Internal Revenue Service -Criminal Investigation Division, and the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. U.S. Attorney Silsby stated that this conviction is significant because it sends a strong message that those who choose to traffic drugs or launder drug money in Maine will be prosecuted and face stiff penalties and will forfeit any assets obtained with drug proceeds or any assets involved in laundering drug money. Douglas Bricker, IRS Special Agent in Charge, stated: " IRS -

Criminal Investigation plays a unique role in federal law enforcement's counter-drug effort because IRS-CID targets the profit and financial gains of narcotics traffickers. The attack on money laundering is an essential front in the war on narcotics.”
