



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HUNTINGTOWN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO  
ILLEGAL GAMBLING AND MONEY LAUNDERING**

Greenbelt, Maryland - United States Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio announced that Gary Richardson, age 58, of Huntingtown, Maryland, pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. to conducting an illegal gambling business and money laundering.

According to the Statement of Facts presented at the guilty plea, Richardson was in partnership with a Montgomery County resident in an illegal bookmaking operation, based primarily in Calvert, St. Mary's and Prince George's County, Maryland. The organization accepted wagers for professional and college football games, and professional and college basketball games. Richardson recruited individuals to work in the bookmaking organization, paid the organization's expenses and met with bettors on a weekly basis to collect or payout monies for the previous week's activities at various restaurants in Prince George's County. Bettors also left payments or collected payments at two liquor stores, one in Calvert County and the other in Prince George's County. Between November 2000 and December 2001, Richardson cashed bettor's checks at the Prince George's County liquor store and deposited approximately \$52,000 of bookmaking proceeds into the liquor store's bank account.

On December 31, 2001 law enforcement agents from the Internal Revenue Service and the Montgomery County Department of Police executed search warrants at several locations throughout Calvert and Prince George's County, including Richardson's residence. Among the items seized from Richardson's residence was \$27,000 in U.S. currency and gambling paraphernalia, including betting sheets with bettor's codes and payment collections sheets. From another of the organization member's home, law enforcement agents seized cassette tapes of recorded conversations wherein bettors were placing wagers on sporting contests with the organization. The organization maintained a list of bettors that included in excess of 75 regular players and collected approximately \$200,000 in weekly wagers during the football season.

Richardson faces a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine on the gambling charge and 20 years imprisonment and a \$500,000 fine on the money laundering charges. Sentencing is scheduled for May 17, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

The case is being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation and the Montgomery County Department of Police, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bryan E. Foreman.