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THIRTY-ONE DEFENDANTS CHARGED IN CENTRAL ARKANSAS COCAINE DISTRIBUTION CONSPIRACY

<u>Little Rock, AR</u> - Tim Griffin, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas; William C. Temple, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation; William J. Bryant, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration; Chief Mark Elsinger, Conway Police Department; and Chief Stuart Thomas, Little Rock Police Department announced today that a federal indictment has been returned against thirty-one (31) defendants for their participation in an organization responsible for trafficking cocaine and cocaine base, also known as "crack". Due to its size and scope, the investigation has been conducted as an Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) case known as Operation Black Falcon. The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Conway Police Department, and the Little Rock Police Department.

During the investigation, law enforcement agents acting through cooperating witnesses purchased approximately two pounds of crack cocaine and three pounds of powder cocaine. Additionally, officers seized 36 kilograms of cocaine valued at approximately \$720,000, 300 pounds of marijuana, two BMW 745 automobiles, one Cadillac, one Lincoln Navigator, 5 firearms, and \$105,000 in cash.

"This was a very prominent and extensive criminal enterprise plaguing the central Arkansas area. The only way an organization of this nature can be adequately investigated and dismantled is through a coordinated local and federal law enforcement effort," stated Griffin. "The contributions of both the Conway and Little Rock Police Departments were vital to the success of this operation."

The 59-count Indictment charges the defendants with conspiracy, distribution, and possession with the intent to distribute large amounts of both cocaine and crack cocaine. Some defendants are

charged with utilizing a telephone to facilitate drug distribution activity; possessing a firearm during a drug transaction; and money laundering. In addition to two vehicles that have already been forfeited by the investigating agencies, the indictment also seeks the forfeiture of a BMW and a Cadillac.

All defendants face a statutory sentence of not less than 10 years in prison and up to life in prison, a fine of \$4,000,000 or both, and 5 years of supervised release. In addition, any defendant who has a prior drug trafficking conviction could have his sentence doubled under the federal repeat offender drug laws. There is no parole in the federal system.

An indictment is only an allegation of wrongdoing. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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DEFENDANTS:

VICTOR LAMONT CUMMINGS

a/k/a Victor Neuman

Charged in Counts 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 37, and 58 and in forfeiture allegation I

Age: 35

Conway, Arkansas

KEITH MARCEL BEATTY

a/k/a Quick

Charged in Count 1

Age: 31

Little Rock, Arkansas

JOSEPH ERIC BLACK

a/k/a Little Joe

Charged in Counts 1, 24, and 25

Age: 26

Conway, Arkansas

BRODERICK ANTOINE BURNETT

a/k/a Fizzy

Charged in Counts 1 and 31

Age: 27

Conway, Arkansas

COURTNY B. CANADY

Charged in Counts 1, 51 and 52

Age: 20

Conway, Arkansas

CLEVELAND FITZGERALD COOK

a/k/a Fritchy

Charged in Counts 1 and 30

Age: 38

Maumelle, Arkansas

MICHAEL DARNELL COOPER

a/k/a Monkey Mike

Charged in Counts 1 and 33

Age: 38

Conway, Arkansas

TERRY L. CREDIT

a/k/a Rich

Charged in Counts 1, 2 and 46

Age: 40

Mayflower, Arkansas

MORRIS E. CREDIT

a/k/a Short Dog

Charged in Counts 1, 40 and 41

Age: 37

Mayflower, Arkansas

MARIO L. CUNNINGHAM

Charged in Counts 1 and 38

Age: 26

Conway, Arkansas

RAYFUS ULESTER DUKES, JR.

a/k/a RJ

Charged in Counts 1 and 43

Age: 33

Conway, Arkansas

MARCEL ROSHEL FENNELL

a/k/a Yo

Charged in Counts 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 26, 40, 41, and 57

Age: 40

Mayflower, Arkansas

TRACY ANDRE FORD

a/k/a Tre Fo

Charged in Counts 1 and 35

Age: 31

Conway, Arkansas

ELLISON GARTH

a/k/a Jumar

Charged in Counts 1, 28, and 59

Age: 44

Mayflower, Arkansas

KEITH ERIC GATEWOOD

a/k/a Keety

Charged in Counts 1 and 34

Age: 40

Conway, Arkansas

KEVIN LAMAR GOFF

a/k/a Yogi

Charged in Counts 1, 9, 10, 20, 50, and 57

Age: 37

Conway, Arkansas

TERRANCE LAMAR HILL

a/k/a Terry

Charged in Counts 1, 32, and 48

Age: 34

Conway, Arkansas

DAVID L. HOOD

Charged in Counts 1 and 44

Age: 25

Conway, Arkansas

MEAGAN DAWN JERGINS

Charged in Counts 1, 39, and 45

Age: 28

Conway, Arkansas

SYLVESTER KIRKWOOD

a/k/a Poochie

Charged in Counts 1, 4, and 7

Age: 48

Conway, Arkansas

HAYWOOD OWENS

a/k/a Big O

Charged in Counts 1 and 42

Age: 51

Conway, Arkansas

CLIFTON EARL PAYNE

Charged in Counts 1 and 21

Age: 31

Conway, Arkansas

GABBIE LEONARD PIGGEE

Charged in Counts 1 and 49

Age: 56

Mayflower, Arkansas

DEMETRIUS DANYELL STUBBS

a/k/a Baldy

Charged in Counts 1 and 3

Age: 36

North Little Rock, Arkansas

RUFUS LAMAR TAYLOR

a/k/a Funkytown

Charged in Counts 1 and 54

Age: 32

Conway, Arkansas

EZELL TAYLOR

Charged in Count 1

Age: 20

Little Rock, Arkansas

VIVIAN WALKER TIMS

a/k/a Cookie

Charged in Counts 1, 23, and 29

Age: 50

Mayflower, Arkansas

STANLEY JAJUAN WATERS

a/k/a Tanky

Charged in Counts 1, 22, and 36

Age: 32

Conway, Arkansas

MARCUS ORLANDO WATKINS

Charged in Counts 1 and 47

Age: 32

Conway, Arkansas

CECIL WILLIAMS

a/k/a Moony

Charged in Counts 1, 27, 55, and 56

Age: 28

Little Rock, Arkansas

DEONDREY WRIGHT

a/k/a Dre

Charged in Counts 1 and 53

Age: 27

Morrilton, Arkansas