



*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Mississippi*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2011**

Mississippi Gang Member Pleads Guilty to Gun and Drug Charges

Gulfport, Miss - Daniel Vashon Cantino, 28, of D'Iberville, MS, pled guilty in U.S. District Court on July 7, 2011 to Possession of a Firearm after Felony Conviction and Possession with Intent to Distribute 3 grams or more of methamphetamine, U.S. Attorney John Dowdy announced.

Cantino, a documented member of the Simon City Royals street gang, was arrested after fleeing from police and attempting to dispose of the gun and drugs. He was indicted on February 23, 2011. Cantino has a prior state conviction for burglary

Cantino will be sentenced on September 30, 2011, and faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.

This case was investigated by the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Annette Williams.

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