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**FAYETTE COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR
DISTRIBUTING COCAINE WHILE AWAITING SENTENCING
ON FEDERAL GUN CHARGE**

CHARLESTON, W. Va. – A Fayette County man was sentenced today to 63 months in prison for distributing cocaine. Wilson Watson, Jr., 48, of Mount Hope, West Virginia, pleaded guilty in April 2010, admitting he sold powder cocaine to a confidential informant.

On January 27, 2010, a confidential informant working with the Beckley Narcotics Enforcement Team purchased approximately one ounce of cocaine from Watson in exchange for \$1,000. The drug transaction took place at Watson's residence. At the time of the drug deal, Watson was awaiting sentencing on a federal gun charge. He previously pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Watson's drug sentence was ordered to be served consecutive to a 42 month prison term previously imposed for the gun offense.

United States District Judge Irene C. Berger presided over the proceedings. The Beckley Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration conducted the investigation. The prosecution was handled by Assistant United States Attorney John J. Frail.

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