Press Releases

HARVEY MAN SENTENCED FOR CRIMINAL INFRINGEMENT OF TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS

February 5, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DESI WILSON, age 37, a resident of Harvey Louisiana, was sentenced yesterday in federal court by the U. S. District Judge Helen G. Berrigan to a three (3) year term of probation, six (6) months of home confinement and a $6,000.00 fine pursuant to his pleas of guilty to Criminal Infringement of Copyrighted Materials and Trafficking in Counterfeit Goods, announced U. S. Attorney Jim Letten.

According to the indictment and documents filed at the time of his plea of guilty, WILSON distributed both bootleg motion picture DVDs and music CD's at the Algiers Flea Market. The pirated movies he admitted selling included Rush Hour 3, Dark Crystal, Rendition, and Kingdom, while the recordings included the works of BG, J. Holiday and Kanye West. WILSON also admitted that he infringed on certain trademarks and sold counterfeit handbags with brand names such as Prada, Gucci, Dooney and Bourke, Coach, Fendi, Chanel, and Louis Vuitton.

U. S. Attorney Letten said that his office considers these offenses serious in nature and will continue to prosecute them in the future. He stated that these offenses adversely impact not only the music, motion picture and fashion industries but legitimate area retail outlets as well as local New Orleans musicians. This case is part of a continuing effort by federal law enforcement agencies to stop the sale of bootleg merchandise and copyrighted materials. Seven other individuals have been previously charged in other federal cases. Five have pled guilty while two are awaiting trial.

The case was investigated by the Special Agents with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case was prosecuted by the Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force Unit, Mark A. Miller.