



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Northern District of New York

100 South Clinton Street

Room 900; P.O. Box 7198
Syracuse, New York 13261-7198
(315) 448-0672

NEWS RELEASE

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ANDREW T. BAXTER, United States Attorney, Northern District of New York, announces that an indictment unsealed today in United States District Court charges twelve persons with being members of and conducting criminal activity through, a criminal organization know as the 110 Gang. The Indictment alleges that the gang has operated within the City of Syracuse from at least 1998 through the present. The defendants were charged with conspiring to exploit their membership in the 110 Gang to engage in a pattern of racketeering activity which included multiple acts of drug trafficking, armed assaults, and robbery. Those defendants, all of whom are from Syracuse, include:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>
Reddell Smith	Renny	24
Clinton Hill	Tupac, Clint	29
Jermaine Barnum	Bones	25
Darquan Walker	Quany	23
Arthur Bullock	Art	22
Ralph Walker	Eaz	23
Schiquan Harrison	S	23
Marquise Scott	Sem	25
Jerry Slaughter	Hood	21
Keith Horton	Kizza	21
Bryan Shepard	Gadget	24
Quashawn Blunt	Qua	19

The indictment further alleges that members of the 110 Gang: (1) maintain a specific geographic territory within the City of Syracuse in which only gang members can sell crack cocaine; (2) protect that exclusive crack distribution territory with violence if necessary; (3) mark that territory with gang-related graffiti; (4) obtain crack cocaine from suppliers in New York City and elsewhere; (5) project a very violent attitude and respond to violence with violence in order to preserve their stature in the gang community; (6) on occasion use hand signs and wear white colored bandanas to signify their gang membership; (7) use criteria such as willingness to use violence, ability to sell crack, and familial connections to determine membership; (8) routinely carry and use firearms in connection with their gang activity; and (9) occasionally engage in gang-related robberies. The Overt Acts set forth in the Indictment detail several instances of drug trafficking and at least 14 shootings alleged to have been committed by the defendants.

The allegations contained in the Indictment are mere accusations; and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law. If convicted, each defendant faces up to life imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and up to three years of supervised release following any period of incarceration.

Law enforcement authorities arrested five of these defendants at various locations in and around Syracuse early this morning. Five defendants were previously incarcerated. Those defendants appeared before United States Magistrate Judge George H. Lowe earlier today for initial appearances. Authorities are continuing to search for fugitive defendants **SCHIQUAN HARRISON** and **JERRY SLAUGHTER**. Anyone with information regarding their whereabouts is asked to call the Syracuse Fugitive Task Force hotline at (315) 473-7625.

This prosecution resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the Syracuse Police Department, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department, the New York State Police, the U.S. Marshal's Service, the New York State Division of Parole, the Onondaga County Probation Department and the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (Syracuse Office). U.S. Attorney Andrew T. Baxter; Syracuse Police Chief Gary Miguel and Onondaga County Sheriff Kevin Walsh all praised the outstanding cooperative efforts of the federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies who participated in this investigation and prosecution.

U.S. Attorney Baxter noted that his Office will continue to work closely with the local Gang Task Force and the law enforcement participants in Project Safe Neighborhoods and Operation IMPACT to investigate and prosecute gangs which engage in gun violence, narcotics trafficking, and other criminal activity throughout the Northern District of New York.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney, John M. Katko. Further questions or inquiries may be directed to him or United States Attorney Andrew T. Baxter at (315) 448-0672.

END OF NEWS RELEASE
