



ANTHONY G. BROWN, MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:
press@oag.state.md.us
410-576-7009

Attorney General Brown Announces Conviction and Sentencing of Baltimore Man for Felony Fentanyl and Cocaine Distribution Charges

BALTIMORE, MD (August 23, 2023) – Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown today announced that Clarence Joseph Buckner, Jr., 49, of Baltimore, pleaded guilty and was sentenced on felony fentanyl and cocaine distribution charges following a drug trafficking investigation in the eastern district of Baltimore City.

Buckner pleaded guilty to volume dealer/possession of a large amount of fentanyl mixture and distribution of cocaine before the Honorable Lawrence R. Daniels in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Judge Daniels sentenced Buckner to 30 years of incarceration, suspending all but eight years, with the first five years being served without the possibility of parole. Upon his release, Buckner will be placed on five years of supervised probation.

In January 2022, an investigation led by the Attorney General’s Organized Crime Division, the Drug Enforcement Administration through the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program—Group 54, and the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) utilized a variety of investigative methods, including the use of undercover BPD detectives, to make controlled purchases of narcotics, including fentanyl in the eastern district. The investigation culminated in the execution of a search warrant in June 2022. In total, the investigation led to the seizure of one firearm and large amounts of controlled dangerous substances and packaging material.

In making today’s announcement, Attorney General Brown thanked Criminal Division Chief Katie Dorian, the men and women of the DEA and BPD, as well as Senior Assistant Attorney General Jared I. Albert and Assistant Attorney General David Wiseman, who prosecuted this case. Attorney General Brown also thanked Drug Enforcement Administration Washington Division Special Agent in Charge Jarod Forget, Baltimore Police Interim Commissioner Richard Worley, and State’s Attorney for Baltimore City Ivan J. Bates for their assistance in this investigation and prosecution.

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2023/082323.pdf>