



ANTHONY G. BROWN, MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL

PRESS RELEASE

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

Attorney General Brown Announces Sentencing of Two Leaders of Violent Criminal Organization in Baltimore City *28 Members of the Criminal Organization Have Been Convicted and Sentenced Following a 16-Month Investigation*

BALTIMORE, MD (March 17, 2025) – Attorney General Anthony G. Brown today announced the sentencing of James Brunson, 41 of Baltimore, Maryland, for conspiring to supervise a criminal organization, among other charges. Brunson and co-defendant Ernest Hudson, 38, also of Baltimore, were the leaders of a violent drug trafficking organization that was operating in the city of Baltimore, primarily in the Shipley Hill, Booth-Boyd, and Fayette Street neighborhoods.

Ultimately, 33 individuals were [charged](#) for their various roles in the organization, primarily for the distribution of controlled dangerous substances, including fentanyl, as well as firearm charges. The charges stemmed from a 16-month long investigation by the Baltimore Police Department, which was led by the Attorney General’s Organized Crime Unit. The investigation was part of Baltimore City Mayor Brandon Scott’s Group Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS).

“All Marylanders deserve to live in safe, thriving communities free from the threat of violence,” **said Attorney General Brown**. “This case is a testament to our relentless pursuit of those who flood our neighborhoods with deadly drugs and firearms. Cases like this one that remove guns, drugs, and dangerous people from our streets make our communities safer and serve as a clear warning: if you choose to spread violence and terrorize our neighbors, we will find you, we will prosecute you, and you will be held fully accountable.”

“GVRS continues to allow us to pursue the violent groups who are most responsible for harming our communities,” **said Mayor Brandon M. Scott**. “While we offer those at the highest risk of violence a way out of the life through services and life coaching, we have to balance support for those who want it with accountability for those who make the choice to continue to use guns and participate in violent groups. This strategy continues to work because of the dedication, commitment, and follow-through of all our law enforcement and violence intervention partners. I want to thank Attorney General Brown, BPD, and all of our partners for their tireless work to ensure those who make the wrong choices face the consequences of their actions and continue to help us make historic progress in violence reduction in Baltimore.”

“Today’s sentencing sends a clear message that violent crime has no place in our city,” **said Police Commissioner Worley**. “I want to personally thank the dedicated officers of the Baltimore Police Department and our law enforcement partners for their relentless commitment to making our communities safer. Their hard work and collaboration were instrumental and we will continue to work tirelessly to dismantle criminal organizations and protect the people of Baltimore.”

“This announcement is only possible through strong collaboration with the Attorney General’s Office, BPD, and partners across the justice system. Together, we are sharing a clear, unified message that there will be accountability for continuing to engage in violence,” **said Stefanie Mavronis, Director of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)**. “We will diligently continue our work to keep people safe, alive, and free through life-changing, real-time interventions for those at the highest risk of involvement in violence.”

On August 12, 2024, Hudson pleaded guilty before the Honorable Judge Jennifer Schiffer of the Baltimore City Circuit Court to several charges, including supervising a criminal organization, distribution of a large amount of fentanyl, and possession of a firearm after being convicted of a felony. Hudson was sentenced to 25 years in prison, with the first 5 years to be served without the possibility of parole.

The investigation revealed that Hudson was a high-ranking member of the organization and distributed large volumes of controlled dangerous substances to individuals, including undercover detectives. Hudson also helped to supply others, including other members of the organization with controlled dangerous substances, including mixtures containing fentanyl, para-fluorofentanyl, heroin, tramadol, 4-anilino-n-phenethylpiperidine (4-ANPP), 6-monoacetylmorphine, and cocaine. Hudson also frequently possessed handguns and bragged about his involvements in shootings and other violence.

On March 10, 2025, Brunson, another high-ranking member of the organization, pleaded guilty before the Honorable Judge John Addison Howard of the Baltimore City Circuit Court to several charges, including conspiring to supervise a criminal organization and the illegal possession of a regulated firearm. The State recommended a sentence of 20 years. Brunson was sentenced to serve 20 years in prison, with the first 15 years suspended in favor of 3 years of supervised probation. Brunson will serve the first 5 years of that sentence without the possibility of parole.

In addition to Hudson and Brunson, the following members of the organization have pleaded guilty and been sentenced:

Defendant	Charges	Sentencing Date	Sentence
Antonio Ben, 36, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and two counts of distribution of a controlled dangerous substance, cocaine and fentanyl	December 14, 2023	2 years

Darrick Brown, 56, of Parkville	Participation in a criminal organization and conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances	January 2, 2024	14 years with all but 18 months suspended followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Terrell Cash, 43, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances	May 24, 2024	20 years with all but 4 years suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Alicia Evans, 36, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization	December 14, 2023	6 months and 19 days
Tramaine Evans, 23, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and distribution of fentanyl	July 12, 2024	4 years with all but 192 days suspended
Jeshaiah Gibson, 28, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization	December 18, 2023	6 months and 14 days
Javon Groomes, 30, of Taneytown	Conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances	July 15, 2024	3 years with all but 4 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Keith Hardy, 29, of Windsor Mill	Conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances and distribution of fentanyl	August 12, 2024	2 years with all but 4 months suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Damon Hite, 47, of Windsor Mill	Conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances	July 12, 2024	8 years with all but 143 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Jashawn Johnson, 28, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization,	May 13, 2024	12 years with all but 2 years suspended to be

	distribution of cocaine, and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl		followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Antwan Jones, 24, of Baltimore	Two counts of distribution of a controlled dangerous substance, cocaine and fentanyl	June 24, 2024	6 years
Tony McClamy, 38, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and possession with intent to distribute cocaine	July 5, 2024	3 years and 4 months
Dea'ndre McCormick, 30, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization, distribution of cocaine, and distribution of a heroin and fentanyl mixture	December 15, 2023	3 years with all but 2 years and 5 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Keith Miller, 35, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization, conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances, and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl	November 18, 2024	20 years with all but 4 years suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Troy Moore, 35, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances	March 7, 2024	8 years with all but 10 months and 26 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Damon Patterson, 40, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and possession with intent to distribute cocaine	June 14, 2024	6 years with all but 458 days suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation

Malik Richardson, 30, of Lansdowne	Participation in a criminal organization, conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances, and distribution of a heroin and fentanyl mixture	December 15, 2023	5 years with all but 4 years, 2 months and 14 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
James Sanders, 40, of Baltimore County	Participation in a criminal organization, two counts of possession of a firearm after being convicted of a felony, and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl	June 24, 2024	10 years with all but 8 years suspended with the first 5 years without the possibility of parole to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Clifford Sellman, 54, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl	June 24, 2024	5 years
Corey Smith-Rosenboro, 33, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization, distribution of cocaine, and possession with intent to distribute cocaine	August 12, 2024	2 years
Andra Smother, 43, of Middle River	Participation in a criminal organization and possession of a firearm after being convicted of a felony	June 3, 2024	15 years with all but 5 years without the possibility of parole suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation
Tyrone Stuckey, 38, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and possession with intent to distribute cocaine	July 10, 2024	2 years

Earl Tate, 42, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and distribution of fentanyl	August 8, 2024	5 years with all but 1 year suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
Kirk Taylor, 45, of Baltimore	Participation in a criminal organization and distribution of a controlled dangerous substance	May 17, 2024	Ordered to attend in-patient substance abuse treatment
Dex Williams, 44, of Baltimore	Possession of a firearm after being convicted of a felony	June 24, 2024	5 years with all but 1 year and 8 days suspended to be followed by 2 years of supervised probation
James Woodfolk, 27, of Baltimore	Conspiracy to participate in a criminal organization and distribution of fentanyl	August 12, 2024	10 years with all but 7 months and 5 days suspended to be followed by 3 years of supervised probation

Three cases remain open where the defendants have outstanding warrants for their arrest and have not yet been apprehended. Those individuals are Nicholas Jones, Lamont Laws-Rosenboro, and Shytia Moody.

In making today's announcement, Attorney General Brown thanked his Office's Criminal Division, including Chief Katie Dorian, Organized Crime Unit Chief Paul Halliday and Assistant Attorneys General Shannon Price and Eric Sullivan, who prosecuted this case. Attorney General Brown also thanked Baltimore Police Department Commissioner Richard J. Worley Jr., Baltimore City Mayor Brandon Scott and his Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, as well as the State's Attorney for Baltimore City Ivan J. Bates, for their assistance with this investigation and prosecution. Attorney General Brown also thanked Governor Wes Moore for assistance and funding through the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN).

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