

Dealer gets 30 years in two fentanyl deaths

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A Detroit man who admitted selling a **fentanyl** -laced drug cocktail that killed **two** people was sentenced Thursday to more than **30 years in** prison.

U.S. District Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff, sitting **in** Port Huron, sentenced James Edgar Coleman to 365 months **in** federal prison. That sentence was at the top of the sentencing guideline range for Coleman, who has previous convictions for drug trafficking.

Coleman, 36, admitted to selling the **fentanyl** -laced heroin that killed Lauren Jolly, a 17- **year** - old Bloomfield Township high school student, and Daniel McElmurry, **30** , of Madison Heights, last **year** .

The charge against Coleman was the first charge of selling a controlled substance causing **death** related to **fentanyl** -laced heroin and cocaine that killed an estimated 133 people **in** Metro Detroit **in** 2005-06.

Coleman had pleaded guilty and expressed remorse at his sentencing, lawyer Warren Harris said.

"He was not the person who mixed the drugs," Harris said. "Mr. Coleman would not know **fentanyl** right now if he saw it."

U.S. Attorney Stephen Murphy credited the work of the Drug Enforcement Agency and Oakland County.

"This significant sentence is the result of a robust federal response to the rash of overdose **deaths** caused by **fentanyl** -laced heroin," Murphy said.

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