

## YOUNG BOYS DRUG BOSS SURRENDERS

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**Milton "Butch" Jones** , one of the two alleged top leaders of the Young Boys Inc. heroin ring, surrendered to federal authorities in Detroit Tuesday and pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to conducting a criminal enterprise.

"You're **Milton David Jones** ?" asked U.S. District Judge Ralph Guy Jr.

"Yes, sir," replied the stocky, 27-year-old man dressed in a blue and gray jogging suit and white track shoes.

That brief conversation ended the running days of **Jones** , who had been one of the most hunted fugitives in Michigan for more than three months

**Jones** , 27, of Oak Park, was placed in an unspecified prison in lieu of a \$10 million cash bond to await sentencing at a date yet to be set.

IF A plea-bargaining agreement is approved by Guy, **Jones** will serve no more than 12 years in prison. The charge carries a minimum 10-year, no-parole sentence and a maximum life sentence and \$100,000 fine.

Under the agreement, **Jones** is not required to co-operate with the government, and he will not have to testify against his more than 20 alleged former accomplices in a trial scheduled to start April 25 before Guy.

A charge of conspiring to possess heroin with the intent to distribute was dropped. It carried a 15-year prison term and a \$25,000 fine.

**JONES** had been a fugitive with a \$10,000 reward on his head since Dec. 6, 1982 , when he and 40 other alleged upper- and middle-level leaders of Young Boys Inc. were indicted by a federal grand jury. Federal, state and local law enforcement officials had searched for **Jones** throughout the state and in Florida.

His surrender came after complex negotiations in the past two weeks between defense attorneys Richard Zipser and Rick Lustig and U.S. Attorney Leonard Gilman and Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Morgan, according to court documents. It was not revealed where **Jones** had been hiding.

For security reasons, the surrender was kept secret until **Jones** walked into Guy's well -guarded courtroom in downtown Detroit, accompanied by Lustig and Betty Crawford, 39, of Detroit, a companion of **Jones** .

Crawford pleaded guilty to a conspiracy count in a plea-bargaining deal in which she admitted to having been a cocaine dealer for Young Boys. Gilman would not say whether Crawford's plea was part of the arrangement worked out with **Jones**.

Despite the fact that police using sophisticated spying equipment were supposed to have key suspects under surveillance 24 hours before their arrests, **Jones** escaped the massive raids Dec. 6 and 7 that resulted in the arrests of most of Young Boys' alleged leaders.

HIS ALLEGED partner, Sylvester "Seal" Murray, 30, of Southfield, was arrested and charged with conducting a continuing criminal enterprise and conspiracy.

Informants told police that **Jones** made all the decisions for Young Boys operations while Murray was in charge of obtaining heroin, according to court documents. **Jones** told Guy Tuesday that he was the "organizer, supervisor, and manager" of the drug operation.

The ring, which police estimate had about 350 members, many of them juveniles, grossed about \$7.5 million a week in heroin sales, prosecutors said. It was believed to have been established by **Jones** and others about four years ago.

Portia **Jones**, 28, who federal authorities said was either **Jones**' former wife or former common-law wife, was also indicted on a conspiracy charge. Gilman said Tuesday that she is still a fugitive.

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Caption: Photo

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