

REPUTED HEROIN DEALER SENTENCED \ TO 45 YEARS FOR COCAINE SMUGGLING

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Reginald Gary Davis, characterized in 1983 as one of the top heroin dealers in North America, was sentenced to the maximum 45 years in federal prison Monday for cocaine trafficking.

Davis, 35, of Detroit, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge George LaPlata. He had been convicted June 30.

Agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration, acting on a tip, arrested **Davis** last September in Ann Arbor and seized more than two pounds of cocaine in his hotel room.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Detroit, which prosecuted **Davis**, had urged LaPlata to hand down the maximum sentence, saying in a brief that 45 years would "turn the screw tighter and tighter" in the war against drugs.

In 1983, **Davis** was named in a 57-count federal grand jury indictment as the mastermind of heroin-distribution ring that supplied much of Detroit's heroin between 1977 and 1982.

Declared a fugitive, **Davis** was never tried on those charges, which carried a maximum sentence of life in prison. His two brothers and sister-in-law were convicted and are serving terms ranging from 25 years with no parole to 10 years.

Last month, government attorneys dropped the 1983 heroin indictment against **Davis**, saying that trying him on those charges would be too costly and time consuming after his conviction on the cocaine charges.

Davis maintained that through an identity mix-up, the government had charged the wrong person in the heroin indictment.

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