



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

September 17, 2004

# News Release

## **HEROIN SMUGGLER SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS, 3 MONTHS**

*Detroit's Homeland Security team kept \$9 million in drugs out of Chicago*

DETROIT—A drug smuggler caught with nearly 11 pounds of heroin while returning from a trip to Nigeria through Detroit Metropolitan Airport was sentenced Wednesday to 87 months prison by U.S. District Court Judge Arthur Tarnow after pleading guilty June 9 to drug smuggling.

The plea by Oyekunle Oyeyipo, 26 years old and a United States citizen, was the result of the a joint law enforcement effort between the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The case began when Oyeyipo arrived at the airport on a flight from Frankfurt, Germany Feb. 29 with a maroon-colored suitcase. Customs and Border Protection inspectors examined the suitcase and found that it had a false bottom that hid a compartment. Inside the compartment were four packages wrapped in black plastic. Chemical testing revealed the packages contained heroin and Oyeyipo was arrested.

Oyeyipo told U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agents investigating the smuggling attempt that he was supposed to take the drugs to Chicago and wait for an unidentified person to meet him at a pre-determined location and accept delivery of the packages.

“The Homeland Security team kept a significant quantity of heroin from hitting our streets and sent an international drug smuggler to prison,” said Special Agent-in-Charge Brian M. Moskowitz, who leads ICE investigations here. “Criminals who believe that they can come to this country and peddle their poison with impunity should know that DHS agencies stand ready to take them down.”

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terror and criminal networks.*