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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**JEREMIAH POOLE PLEADS GUILTY TO CARJACKING AND USING A FIREARM
IN FURTHERANCE OF A CRIME OF VIOLENCE**

Baltimore, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that Jeremiah Poole, age 21, of Baltimore, Maryland pled guilty today before the Honorable Richard D. Bennett to car jacking and using a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence. Prior to his arrest in September 2003, Poole and one of his co-conspirators had been featured on "Maryland's Most Wanted."

According to facts presented to the court as part of the plea agreement, in the early morning hours on April 16, 2003 Poole, along with two other men and a woman, lured the victim Edward Hawkins to a shopping center located in Northeast Baltimore City. When Mr. Hawkins arrived at that location, one of Poole's co-conspirators forced Mr. Hawkins from the driver's seat of his automobile using a semi-automatic assault rifle. Poole then took control of Mr. Hawkins's vehicle. Mr. Hawkins was taken to the Randallstown area of Baltimore County, at which point he was forced from his car at gun point and ordered to disrobe. After the co-conspirators searched Mr. Hawkins's vehicle, they shot Mr. Hawkins in the back and then drove out of the area using Mr. Hawkins car.

Poole faces a maximum sentence of 25 years for car jacking and a sentence of life imprisonment on the related firearm charge.

The case was investigated by the Baltimore County Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jonathan M. Mastrangelo and Robert Harding.