

# Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## Drug Dealer on Work Release from Prison Arrested for Crack-Cocaine Sale in Harlem

BRIDGET G. BRENNAN, New York City's Special Narcotics Prosecutor, and New York City Police Commissioner RAYMOND W. KELLY announced today the arrest and indictment of FRANKLIN BAZEMORE for selling crack-cocaine in a private housing complex in Central Harlem.

The indictment charges BAZEMORE with Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree in connection with an Oct. 17, 2010 sale to an undercover NYPD officer with the Manhattan North Narcotics Bureau. On that day, BAZEMORE supplied crack-cocaine to another drug dealer, who conducted the sale with the officer inside an apartment at Esplanade Gardens.

At the time of the sale, BAZEMORE was on work release from the Fulton Correctional Facility following a 2009 conviction for Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree. Police subsequently learned that BAZEMORE had maintained a leadership position in an Esplanade Gardens-based drug ring, even while he was in custody following his 2009 conviction, and had resumed selling drugs upon being granted work release from prison.

The earlier 2009 indictment also related to narcotics sales inside Esplanade Gardens, specifically charging BAZEMORE with four counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree. BAZEMORE was sentenced to three years in state prison in October 2009. However, the New York State Department of Correctional Services allowed BAZEMORE to enter the work release program at the Fulton Correctional Facility approximately one year after his sentence began.

In both the 2009 case and the current indictment, BAZEMORE and his crew used the apartments of single women in vulnerable situations to conduct drug sales. The group's drug activity was the subject of community complaints to the NYPD and the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor.

Today, BAZEMORE was arraigned on the new indictment in Manhattan State Supreme Court, where Justice Robert Stolz ordered him held without bail.

INDICTED DEFENDANT

CHARGE

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**Franklin Bazemore, a.k.a. "Tuna"**

6/8/1972

Fulton Correctional Facility

1511 Fulton Avenue, Bronx

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CSCS 3<sup>rd</sup> degree – 1 ct

The charges and allegations are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.