



# Department of Justice

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12/15/06

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## **TWO SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY BUYING & SELLING GUNS**

### ***Ex-Husband and Wife Bought Guns from Pawn Shop and Sold Them at Flea Markets***

Rome, GA - TERRELL BELT, 40, and SHARON DENISE BELT, 43, both of Cartersville, Georgia, were sentenced today by United States District Judge Harold L. Murphy after being convicted of conspiracy to falsify firearms purchase forms and falsifying firearms purchase forms. TERRELL BELT was also sentenced for being convicted of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

"We have steadfastly prosecuted those who illegally buy firearms and put them in the hands of felons and others who have and may again use them to commit crimes in our communities," said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "The sentences of imprisonment received by these two defendants today demonstrate the seriousness with which our society views these crimes."

"ATF pursues a two-pronged approach to protecting the public through firearms enforcement: by directly investigating armed criminals and investigating those who supply guns to criminals," said Vanessa L. McLemore, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. "For those who don't take federal firearms laws seriously when purchasing guns, ATF has teams of agents dedicated to putting you behind bars."

TERRELL BELT was sentenced to 2 years, 9 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. SHARON BELT was sentenced to 1 year, 9 months in prison to be followed by 2 years of supervised release. TERRELL BELT and SHARON DENISE BELT were convicted of these charges by a jury after a trial on September 14, 2006.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: In June of 2005, SHARON BELT falsified information on firearms purchase forms in order to buy 15 handguns on two different dates from Big Buck Enterprises in Calhoun, Georgia, for her then-husband, TERRELL BELT. Mr. BELT was a convicted

felon, prohibited by law from possessing firearms, but SHARON BELT provided the firearms to Mr. BELT so that he could resell the firearms at flea markets in and around the Murphy, North Carolina, area.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

Assistant United States Attorney Todd C. Alley prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is [www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).