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JACKSONVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS ON GUN CHARGES

Jacksonville, Florida - U.S. District Judge Timothy J. Corrigan today sentenced Archie Smith, age 35, an armed career criminal, to 15 years' imprisonment for possessing a 9mm pistol. Smith entered a plea of guilty on September 18, 2007, to the charge of a being a felon in possession of a firearm.

According to court documents, Smith had numerous prior convictions in Duval County and Baker County. Smith was caught in Baker County with the loaded firearm and a small quantity of cocaine and marijuana.

The case was investigated by the Baker County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Jacksonville, Florida. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Talbot.

This is another case prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives(ATF). United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill, along with Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF, is coordinating the effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.