



Department of Justice

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ORLANDO ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 19 YEARS FOR FEDERAL FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION OFFENSE

Orlando, Florida - United States District Judge Anne C. Conway today sentenced an Orlando man, Kendell Lee Starks, 32, to a term of 19 years and seven months in federal prison on a single count indictment charging him with possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon. In addition to the prison term, Starks must serve three years in a supervised release program and perform 150 hours of community service. Starks previously had been found guilty of the offense after a jury trial on December 11, 2007.

According to the evidence presented in the court proceedings, members of the Orlando Police Department's Fugitive Investigative Unit arrested Starks on an outstanding felony warrant on March 28, 2007. Once Starks had been located, the officers saw him loading two luggage bags into a car driven by a female companion. When officers subsequently attempted to stop the car on the East-West Expressway, they saw Starks reaching under his seat. Searching the car after Starks' arrest, officers found a loaded revolver directly underneath Starks' seat; the revolver previously had been reported stolen. A search of the luggage bags revealed a semi-automatic pistol with an obliterated serial number and a box of ammunition in a side pocket of one bag; ten additional rounds of ammunition were found in the second bag along with papers and medication in Starks' name. Starks, a multi-convicted violent felon, is prohibited from possessing firearms and

ammunition under federal law.

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill stated, "This case represents another successful prosecution of a convicted felon carrying a dangerous weapon. I want to thank the many agencies who were involved in this investigation."

Virginia T. O'Brien, ATF Special Agent in Charge, said "I want to ensure the people of Orlando that ATF will continue to vigorously pursue armed career criminals in our efforts to rid neighborhoods of gun violence."

The case represents the culmination of a cooperative effort between the United States Attorney's Office, the City of Orlando Police Department, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. Bodnar, Jr.