



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley
District of North Dakota

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 18, 2008
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/>

CONTACT: BETH LANG
PHONE: (701) 530-2420
FAX: (701) 530-2421

Almont (N.D.) Man Sentenced for Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on January 18, 2008, **Peter W. Olson**, 48, of Almont, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland on a charge of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. **Olson** pled guilty to the charge on October 10, 2007.

Judge Hovland sentenced **Olson** to three years of probation. As a condition of probation, **Olson** will be placed at Centre, Inc., a halfway house in Bismarck, for three months. **Olson's** hunting and guiding privileges were also ordered suspended while he is on probation, and his lifelong prohibition from possessing firearms remains in effect. Judge Hovland, who found that **Olson** had obstructed justice in the case by attempting to intimidate and intimidating a witness during an incident on September 2, 2007, at a street dance in Almont, further ordered **Olson** to have no contact, directly or indirectly, with any of the witnesses in the case. **Olson** was ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

On June 16, 2007, **Olson** was shooting prairie dogs in a rural area of Morton County, North Dakota. He was prohibited from possessing firearms because of prior felony convictions in United States District Court in May 2003 for conspiracy to violate the Lacey Act and unlawful taking of wildlife. **Olson** was sentenced to three years of probation in 2003 in that case.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives and North Dakota Game & Fish, with assistance from the United States Marshal's Service.

Assistant United States Attorney Scott Schneider prosecuted the case.

-end-