



PRESS RELEASE

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Assigned to Each Case

FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Madison, Wisconsin -- A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictments today. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

JANESVILLE MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

Steven Skoien, 27, of Janesville, Wis., is charged with possessing three firearms after previously being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. The indictment alleges that Skoien possessed a 12-gauge shotgun, a .308 caliber rifle, and a .25 caliber pistol on December 3, 2007.

If convicted, Skoien faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the Janesville Police Department, Wisconsin Department of Corrections - Probation & Parole, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Timothy M. O'Shea.

MINNESOTA MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

John L. Biernat, 45, of Maplewood, Minn., is charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The indictment alleges that he possessed a 12-gauge shotgun on October 17, 2007.

If convicted, Biernat faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the Hurley Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter M. Jarosz.

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