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# **News Release**

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## **2 indicted for felon in possession of a firearm**

Two Minneapolis men were charged last week in federal court in separate indictments each for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

In the first case, Antonio Lovell Washington, 24, was indicted on July 14 with one count of felon in possession of a firearm. His indictment, which was unsealed yesterday, alleges that on Oct. 24, 2007, Washington knowingly possessed a .40-caliber pistol.

Prior to the October 2007 possession, Washington had previously been convicted in Hennepin County of felony-level crimes, including first-degree aggravated robbery in 2007; false imprisonment in 2004; theft of a motor vehicle in 2001; and prohibited person in possession of a firearm in 2001.

If convicted, Washington faces a potential penalty of life in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, the Minneapolis Police Department, the Hennepin County Violent Offender Task Force (VOTF) and the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Nancy E. Brasel and W. Anders Folk.

In the second unrelated case, Ambres Devon Palmer, 24, was charged on July 14 with one count of felon in possession of a firearm. His indictment, which was unsealed July 18 following his arrest, alleges that on May 20, 2008, Palmer knowingly possessed a .380-caliber, semi-automatic handgun.

Palmer had previously been convicted in Hennepin County of felony-level crimes, including fleeing a peace officer in 2006; felon in possession of a firearm in 2006; theft of a motor vehicle in 2003; and second-degree assault in 2000.

If convicted, Palmer faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the ATF, the Hennepin County VOTF, the Minneapolis Police Department and the Organized Crime

Drug Enforcement Task Force. It is also being prosecuted by Brasel and Folk.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.