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Thunderbolt Man Convicted of Federal Firearms Charges Arising
From Downtown Shooting

SAVANNAH: Edmund A. Booth, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **Deon Monroe Jones**, age 24, of Thunderbolt, was convicted on July 11, 2008 by a jury in the United States District Court in Savannah of possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon and unlawful user of controlled substances. U.S. District Judge B.Avant Edenfield presided over the three-day trial.

The evidence at trial resulted from a joint investigation by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in conjunction with the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. Jones was arrested at his home on June 18, 2004, in possession of .38 caliber ammunition, during a police investigation of a June 1, 2004 shooting on West Gordon Street in downtown Savannah. The shooting was committed with a .38 caliber revolver. Witnesses at trial testified that Jones, a convicted felon, used the gun to commit the shooting, in which an unsuspecting Savannah resident was shot in the back following a botched robbery attempt, and later hid the remaining ammunition in his room.

Booth stated that Jones, who is presently in custody, will be sentenced after the completion of a pre-sentence investigation and report. A sentencing date has not been set. Jones faces a

maximum statutory sentence of 20 years imprisonment. Booth noted that there is no parole in the federal system.

The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorneys Cameron Heaps Ippolito and Jessica L. McClellan.

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