



Department of Justice

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BLOOMINGTON MAN SENTENCED TO 46 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR ILLEGAL EXPORT TO CANADA OF MORE THAN 25 HANDGUNS

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JEFFREY ROLL, 32, Bloomington, Indiana, was sentenced to 46 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Chief Judge Larry J. McKinney following his guilty plea to Violating the Arms Export Control Act, Mailing Concealable Firearms through the U.S. Mail and Making False Statements to Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers. This case was the result of a two-year investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Indiana State Police, the Department of Homeland Security-Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the York Regional Police, Ontario, Canada.

Between October, 2002 and August, 2003, JEFFREY ROLL established an internet business relationship with a Canadian citizen, known to him by pseudonym. ROLL shipped firearms and ammunition into Canada to the Canadian citizen, who, in exchange, shipped cash and pills containing unlawful controlled substances to ROLL in Bloomington, Indiana. ROLL and the Canadian never met in person and never spoke by telephone.

On April 11, 2003, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents seized a package containing \$2,000 cash. The package had been shipped from Canada and addressed to ROLL. Although manifested as "documents," the currency was taped and concealed between sheets of paper. Customs authorities mailed ROLL written notice of the seizure of money addressed to him and advised him he had 30 days to contest the forfeiture. No petition was ever filed.

In May, 2004, The York Regional Police, Ontario, Canada were conducting an unrelated criminal investigation of ROLL's Canadian internet contact. During a search of the Canadian's home, law enforcement agents found 22 firearms purchased by ROLL from

Southern Indiana gun dealers. These firearms were shipped by ROLL into Canada. The firearms included 9 mm, semi-automatic pistols, .40 caliber semi-automatic pistols, .38 caliber pistols, .357 caliber pistols, and .22 caliber derringers.

The Arms Export Control Act regulates the export of military and defense items through a licensing system administered by the Office of Defense Trade Controls. All of the firearms described above are designated on the United States Munitions List and require a license before they can be exported to another country. ROLL had no license.

Federal law also prohibits mailing handguns. Between November 20, 2002 and December 9, 2002, four packages containing six pistols were mailed to a mailbox registered in the Canadian's pseudonym at the UPS Store in Niagra Falls, New York. UPS Stores provide a nation-wide chain of stores that give customers a network of retail shipping and business services, including a real street address and secure, 24-hour access to mail deliveries. These parcels bore a false Bloomington, Indiana return address, but allegedly had been mailed to the Canadian's UPS Store mailbox by JEFFREY ROLL. These firearms were all purchased by JEFFREY ROLL from a federally licensed firearms dealer in Bloomfield, Indiana on November 16, 2002.

According to First Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. Morrison, who prosecuted the case for the government, Chief Judge McKinney also imposed 2 years supervised release following Roll's release from imprisonment. The Canadian citizen was charged and imprisoned by Canadian authorities for drug trafficking in a case unrelated to ROLL. The Canadian will not be prosecuted in the Southern District of Indiana.

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