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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2008

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ORLANDO CONVICTED FELON SENTENCED TO 57 MONTHS IN PRISON ON FEDERAL FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION CHARGE

Orlando, Florida - U.S. District Judge John Antoon II, today sentenced Alonzo Powell, Jr., age 29, to 57 months' imprisonment for possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon. Powell was found guilty on June 5, 2008, after a federal jury trial.

According to the facts presented at trial, on December 6, 2006, three police officers saw Powell driving an automobile in heavy traffic outside of an apartment complex on Mercy Drive in Orlando, where Powell had resided for at least five years. The officers observed Powell commit several traffic infractions and attempted to stop Powell's vehicle. Powell fled on foot into the complex and escaped. A search of Powell's rental car, however, revealed a high-powered AR-15 style firearm in the front passenger seat, 100 rounds of ammunition, a car rental agreement in the name of Powell's long-term girlfriend, his daughter's school books, and his cellular telephone on the driver's seat. Powell, a previously convicted felon, is prohibited under federal law from possessing either firearms or ammunition.

The case was investigated by the Orlando Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF"). It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert E. Bodnar, Jr., and Tanya Davis Wilson.