

ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
New Orleans Field Division

Contact: Senior Special Agent Austin R. Banks (504) 329-1443

For Immediate Release June 25, 2007

ATF ARRESTS MISSISSIPPI EXPLOSIVES THEFT RING FUGITIVES

OXFORD, Miss. – Special Agent in Charge David G. Harper of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced today that ATF special agents have arrested the two remaining fugitives from an ongoing investigation into an alleged conspiracy to steal explosives and explosive materials.

Keith Whaley and Jenni Whaley, both 35 and from Mooresville, Miss., were arrested June 21 in connection with the ongoing investigation. ATF special agents arrested Casey Smith, 19, of Mantachie, Miss., and Robert Whaley Jr., 23, of Fulton, Miss., June 15.

Each of the defendants was indicted and charged in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi for alleged involvement in a conspiracy to steal explosives from a location in Saltillo, Miss.

In addition, Robert Whaley, Jr. was indicted for being a previously convicted felon in possession of explosive materials, and Keith Whaley was indicted for being an alleged user of narcotics in possession of explosive materials.

ATF special agents from the Oxford, Miss., office are conducting the investigation, and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Oxford is prosecuting.

Anyone with information which may be relevant to the ongoing investigation should contact ATF at 1-800-ATF-GUNS (1-800-283-4867).

ATF is the federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for investigating bombings and other explosives incidents. More information on ATF and its programs to combat violent crime is at www.atf.gov.

####