



U.S. Department of Justice

**Stephen J. Murphy
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Eastern District of Michigan**

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: Terrance D. Coles Jr. et al

**GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENT
AGAINST SIX PEOPLE IN GUN SMUGGLING CASE**

A federal grand jury in Detroit returned an indictment charging six people in connection with an investigation into smuggling firearms from Detroit into Canada, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Detroit- area residents Terrance D. Coles Jr., 23 , Craiprana C. Johnson Jr., 23, Chante R. Mark, 21, Larice R. Matthews, 21, Rhonda M. Loving, 25, and one Canadian citizen, Denisa Manga, 21, were charged with violating U.S. federal smuggling and firearms laws. Coles, Johnson, and Mark also were charged with narcotics violations. Manga also has been charged in Canada.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Thomas E. Brandon, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations, in Detroit.

The thirty-nine count indictment alleges that from February to June of 2008 the defendants illegally transported 27 firearms from Detroit to Windsor, Ontario, and sold them to undercover Canadian law enforcement agents. The indictment further alleges that Coles,

Johnson, and Mark attempted to obtain Ecstasy from an undercover ATF agent in Detroit in exchange for additional firearms.

United States Attorney Murphy said, “Illegal guns contribute to the unnecessary violence in our cities. The 27 guns recovered in this case, demonstrate the strong commitment of United States and Canadian law enforcement to eradicate the illegal buying and selling of guns that terrorize citizens of both countries. I am in the process of enhancing these types of coordinated efforts between our two countries that will address numerous criminal and international security matters.”

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by special agents of ATF and ICE, as well as the Ontario Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit and the Windsor and Toronto police services. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Chasteen.