



Department of Justice

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GUILTY PLEAS IN MACHINE GUN CASE

12 Defendants Who Made, Sold, & Possessed Machine Guns in and around NW GA Pleaded Guilty in Federal Court Today: 2 More Scheduled to Plead on 1/17/06

Atlanta, GA - Ten men from North Georgia, and one each from Kentucky and Alabama pleaded guilty today in federal District Court to charges relating to the unlawful manufacture, sale, and possession of machine guns. Two more defendants are expected to plead guilty on January 17. Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) seized 33 illegally made and owned machine guns during the course of the investigation.

"Removing 33 illegal machine guns from our community, as well as the conspirators who were responsible for making distributing and possessing them makes each of us safer, said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "Because we all know too well the dangers and consequences of criminal use of firearms, especially fully automatic weapons, we must be vigilant against the proliferation of machine guns into our community."

The 12 defendants who pleaded guilty today are: LARRY BUSH, 50, of Lawrenceville, Georgia; MICHAEL A. MILLER, 49, of Carrollton, Georgia; J. COREY ADAMS, 28, of Carrollton, Georgia; KEVIN BUSH, 42, of South Shore, Kentucky; MARK S. MILLER, 43, of Carrollton, Georgia; HUEY HUTCHINSON, 66, of Carrollton, Georgia; JOSEPH STANLEY NABORS, 49, of Dallas, Georgia; PHILLIP SLAUGHTER, 43, of Douglasville, Georgia; BRUCE WADE WILKINSON, 40, of Columbus, Georgia; RODNEY WILLIAMS, 44, of Roopville, Georgia; JOHN ARRINGTON, 33, of Heflin, Alabama; and THOMAS MORRISON, 42, of Villa Rica, Georgia.

The guilty pleas of 12 of the 15 defendants charged in this case not only terminated the criminal conspiracy of the core group of defendants (LARRY BUSH, MICHAEL MILLER, and COREY ADAMS) who had been manufacturing and selling the illegal machine guns, which had moved throughout Georgia, Alabama, and Kentucky, but also ended the criminal possession of the illegal machine guns by those who acquired machine guns from those four defendants. Two more defendants, SPENCER GAY, 33, of Carrollton, Georgia, and DONALD WALLS, 64, of Roopville, Georgia, have their plea hearing

scheduled for January 17, 2006. MICHAEL ALAN HARRIS, 50, of Carrollton, Georgia, is awaiting trial on the charges.

According to United States Attorney David E. Nahmias and the documents and information presented in court: From at least the beginning of 1999 until 2004, MICHAEL MILLER unlawfully manufactured machine guns at his home in Carrollton, Georgia, and conspired with LARRY BUSH and J. COREY ADAMS to unlawfully sell those machine guns to other individuals.

During mid to late 2003, MICHAEL MILLER, LARRY BUSH, and COREY ADAMS unlawfully sold 19 machine guns to undercover ATF agents, acting as buyers. According to the indictment, all three of the men later admitted to ATF agents that they had unlawfully made and sold the prohibited machine guns, and that over the years they had made and sold other machine guns to other individuals, including KEVIN BUSH and MARK S. MILLER, the brothers of LARRY BUSH and MICHAEL MILLER. The indictment further alleges that MICHAEL MILLER and MARK MILLER are prior convicted felons who unlawfully possessed firearms. The other defendants named in the indictment are alleged to have unlawfully received unregistered machine guns that had been manufactured by MICHAEL MILLER.

The defendants who pleaded guilty today face maximum sentences of up to 10 years in federal prison on each count. This means that, for at least some of the defendants who pleaded guilty to multiple counts, the defendants could face 30 to 50 years in federal prison.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

Assistant United States Attorney Todd C. Alley is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or F. Gentry Shelnett, Chief, Criminal Division, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>.