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New Hampshire man sentenced for failing to register as a sex offender

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby, announced that on January 8, 2009, United States District Judge George Singal sentenced Bruce Gagnon, 32, of Lebanon, New Hampshire to 12 months and 1 day imprisonment, 3 years supervised release and a \$3,000 fine for failing to register as a sex offender. Mr. Gagnon is appealing his conviction and will remain released on conditions pending resolution of that appeal.

According to court documents, in 2000, in the Superior Court for Rockingham County, New Hampshire, Mr. Gagnon was convicted of aggravated felonious sexual assault. As a result of that conviction, Mr. Gagnon was required to regularly register as a sex offender. Mr. Gagnon complied with that requirement for several years. In 2006, he stopped complying with his registration requirements in New Hampshire and was convicted for failure to register and for failure to update his registration. For those convictions, he was sentenced to 30 days imprisonment and he was instructed to comply with his registration requirements.

Mr. Gagnon was released from his sentences on December 24, 2006. He moved to Maine to live and work in the Old Orchard Beach area. He did not register as a sex offender. United States Marshals arrested him in Old Orchard Beach on February 21, 2007. In pronouncing sentence, Judge Singal admonished Mr. Gagnon for his lack of respect for the law in general and his obligations to register and appear in particular. Judge Singal said that his sentence was necessary to send Mr. Gagnon the message that he could not choose whether and when to register.

U.S. Attorney Silsby praised the work of the United States Marshals Service for its work investigating the case.