

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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TWO CHARGED BY CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

A. Courtney Cox, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Special Agent in Charge Andrew L. Traver, announced today that on February 20, 2009, **RAYFORD A. RODGERS**, age 32, of 224 E. Third Street, Sparta, Illinois, and **ANTHONY S. MORGAN**, age 25, of 2630 Lincoln Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois, were charged by Criminal Complaint in the Southern District of Illinois. **RODGERS** and **MORGAN**, were charged with possession with the intent to distribute approximately one pound of marijuana. Additionally, **RODGERS** was charged with possession of two firearms as convicted felon. The Complaint alleges that Rodgers was previously convicted of Second Degree Murder on November 16, 1994, and of Second Degree Murder on July 26, 2005.

A Criminal Complaint is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant has the right to be charged by indictment in federal court and is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

On February 23, 2009, **RODGERS** was ordered detained pending trial following a hearing before a United States Magistrate Judge in East St. Louis; **MORGAN** was released on bond.

The case is being investigated by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen B. Clark. Any questions or further information, please contact ATF PIO, Thomas J. Ahern, at (312) 735-0675.