



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009
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SMITH COUNTY FIREARMS DEALER SENTENCED FOR SELLING GUN TO FELON

TYLER, TX – U.S. Attorney Rebecca A. Gregory announced today that a federally licensed firearms dealer has been sentenced for federal gun and drug violations in the Eastern District of Texas.

LARRY DALE ROWAN, 47, of Tyler, pleaded guilty on Oct. 31, 2008, to selling a firearm to a known felon and possessing firearms while he was an unlawful user of methamphetamine and was sentenced today to 21 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Michael Schneider.

According to information presented in court, on December 20, 2007, Rowan sold a 9mm, semi-automatic pistol to an ATF Confidential Informant after the informant had advised him that the informant had previously been convicted of a felony. On February 28, 2008, Rowan was stopped by a Smith County Sheriff's Deputy for a traffic violation and was found to be in possession of two semi-automatic pistols, several bullets, and a usable quantity of methamphetamine. When federal agents searched Rowan's Smith County residence on March 6, 2008, pursuant to a federal search warrant, Rowan advised the agents that he had been using methamphetamine two or three times a day for the last twelve months and that he had used methamphetamine twice the previous evening and once that very morning.

This case was investigated by the Smith County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Noble.

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