



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/KYW

CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

TODD COUNTY MAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM
BY A CONVICTED FELON

- Previous conviction was for rape in the first degree

BOWLING GREEN, KY - A federal grand jury in Bowling Green returned an indictment on August 6, 2008, against **Tommy Ray Lykins**, age 37, of 404A Hightower Road, in Todd County, on charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The Indictment alleges that on May 20, 2008, in Todd County, Kentucky, Lykins knowingly possessed a Marlin rifle after having been previously convicted in Breathitt Circuit Court, Jackson, Kentucky, of the crime of rape in the first degree.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are ten years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of three years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Todd County Sheriff's Office, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a Project Backfire prosecution. Project Backfire is a cooperative effort by the

Todd County Sheriff's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearms offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

Lykins is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on August 20, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

* * *

The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

###