



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

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CONTACT: DAWN MASDEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

**NEW YORK MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING
AND TRANSFERRING ILLEGAL FIREARMS SILENCERS**

-Admits driving with co-defendant to deliver nine silencers in undercover sting

LOUISVILLE, KY - Abunaser Khaled, age 20, of 145 Chester Avenue, in Brooklyn, New York, pled guilty to knowingly possessing and transferring unregistered firearm silencers which were not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record and which were not identified by a serial number as required by federal law, 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.

Khaled admitted that beginning in May, 2007, an ATF Confidential Informant residing in Louisville negotiated with Tariq Kabir ("Kabir"), a New York resident, for the purchase of a number of firearm silencers. Kabir recruited Abunaser Khaled ("Khaled") to assist him (Kabir) in driving from New York to Kentucky to deliver the silencers. Beginning in the early morning hours of July 25, 2007, Kabir and Khaled drove from New York City with nine silencers concealed in Kabir's automobile to trade for firearms. On July 25, 2007, Kabir and Khaled delivered the nine suspected silencers to an undercover ATF Special Agent ("SA") in exchange for fifteen firearms in Louisville, Kentucky. During the transaction, Kabir and Khaled lifted up the back seat of Kabir's vehicle to show the silencers to the undercover ATF SA. As the

transaction was concluding, Khaled carried the fifteen firearms from the undercover ATF SA's vehicle to Kabir's vehicle at Kabir's request. Kabir and Khaled were arrested after they took possession of the fifteen firearms in exchange for the nine silencers. After being advised of his Miranda rights, Khaled stated that he accompanied Kabir to Louisville, Kentucky, from New York City to deliver the silencers. Khaled stated that Kabir recruited him to make the trip on or about Sunday, July 22, 2007. During the early morning hours of July 25, 2007, he saw Kabir with the silencers and was told by Kabir that he (Kabir) had placed the silencers under the back seat of Kabir's vehicle. Khaled said that he and Kabir left New York City for Louisville, Kentucky at approximately 3:00 a.m. on July 25, 2007. Khaled stated that he knew that the silencers would be sold but believed Kabir was to receive cash instead of firearms in exchange for the silencers.

The maximum potential penalties are 30 years imprisonment, a \$750,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas W. Dyke. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation, as part of ATF's ongoing commitment to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

The plea was entered before Charles R. Simpson, Judge, United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky.

Judge Simpson has ordered a presentence investigation. Sentencing should be scheduled in approximately twelve weeks.

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