

ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
New Orleans Field Division

Contact: Senior Special Agent Austin R. Banks (504) 329-1443

For Immediate Release January 25, 2007

ATF ARRESTS FUGITIVE ON TIP FROM CONCERNED CITIZEN

NEW ORLEANS – David G. Harper, Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Field Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and Jim Letten, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, announced that an ATF fugitive from Houston was arrested today on federal firearms charges.

Anthony Douglas was wanted on federal arrest warrants alleging one count of possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime. Douglas was indicted by a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Texas on April 2, 2006, and has been a fugitive since that time.

ATF agents in New Orleans initiated the investigation after receiving a tip from a concern citizen that Douglas had attempted to purchase a firearm during his return to New Orleans. Douglas was arrested today when he attempted to purchase a firearm during an ATF undercover operation. Another firearm with an obliterated serial number was seized subsequent to a search of the suspect's vehicle.

Douglas had an initial appearance today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Louis Moore Jr. and was held on fugitive warrants from Texas. Additional federal firearm charges are pending in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

"This is a perfect example of how community partnership with law enforcement can work," Harper said. "We hope that other citizens will use our 504-581-GUNS (4867) hotline to help make our communities a safer place to live."

This case was investigated under the Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative case and is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Louisiana and Texas.

More information on ATF and its programs to reduce violent crime is at www.atf.gov.