



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

JULY 11, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEFENDANT SENTENCED FOR STEALING FIREARMS IN LACLEDE COUNTY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a defendant was sentenced in federal court today for stealing firearms from Red Fox Motel and Tobacco Store in Lebanon, Mo.

Roger Mark Owens, 42, permanent address unknown, was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to two years and nine months in federal prison without parole. Owens also was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,262.

On Jan. 2, 2003, **Owens** pleaded guilty to stealing a Jennings .22 caliber pistol and two 9 mm pistols from the Red Fox Motel and Tobacco Store's inventory. By pleading guilty, **Owens** admitted that he broke a window to get inside the business. Once inside, he stole the firearms, \$350 cash and other items, including jewelry.

Following the burglary, **Owens** admitted that he went to Tulsa, Okla., where he was arrested. During the arrest, law enforcement officers discovered the Jennings .22 caliber pistol and methamphetamine.

Owens was originally charged with stealing the firearms in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on July 26, 2001, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Lebanon, Mo., Police Department, the Laclede County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, and the Tulsa, Okla., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow