



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
JURY CONVICTS KC MAN FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City man was found guilty by a federal jury today for illegally possessing a firearm.

Dana L. Ford, 33, of Kansas City, was found guilty by a federal trial jury of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Following the presentation of evidence in **Ford's** trial, Graves said, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City deliberated for less than two hours before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning, ending a trial that began on Jan. 10, 2005.

The federal jury found **Ford** guilty of being a felon in possession of a Ruger 9 mm semi-automatic pistol on June 23, 2004. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Ford** has a 1994 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon. In 1996, Ford was convicted of two felony counts of trafficking drugs.

Law enforcement officers initially discovered **Ford** in possession of a firearm after conducting a search of a residence located at 2435 S. Norton in Kansas City. The firearm was located in **Ford's** bedroom.

Under federal statutes, **Ford** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christina Y. Tabor. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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