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Federal Judge Gives 115 Month Sentence To Clarksdale Felon

Jim M. Greenlee, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi, and Mark Chait, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, announced today that on January 27, 2005, United States District Court Judge Michael P. Mills sentenced Roy Milton Neal of Shelby, Mississippi, on Felon in Possession of a Firearm, to serve 115 months in Federal Prison.

The conviction followed Neal's arrest on October 11, 2004 by the Clarksdale Police Department who apprehended Neal after a lengthy foot chase through the Riverton area. Neal, who had outstanding arrest warrants at the time, had previously been convicted in Mississippi for Sale of Cocaine and two (2) previous felony convictions in Chicago, Illinois for Possession of Narcotics. When he became entangled in a chain link fence during the chase, a black, Smith & Wesson, 9mm, semi-automatic pistol fell from Neal's possession. That same 9mm pistol was positively linked to a projectile that was recovered from a Clarksdale residence that was shot into only days before Neal's arrest. The projectile and firearm were analyzed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Forensic Laboratory in Atlanta, Georgia. Special Agents with ATF and Detectives of the Clarksdale Police Department combined efforts under Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) to investigate the various shooting incidents and accurately analyze the incidents of violence that were attributable to this firearm and Roy Neal.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Marshall Alexander.

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