

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
February 9, 2005**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Western District of Kentucky**

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AREA MAN INDICTED ON ILLEGAL FIREARMS CHARGE

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that a federal Grand Jury in Bowling Green **returned an Indictment** charging **HAROLD E. BESS**, age 28, of Marshall County, Kentucky, with possession of a firearm affecting interstate commerce by a person convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

The Indictment charges that on and between March 5, 2003, and May 24, 2003, **Bess** possessed a 9 mm revolver obtained from an area pawn shop. **Bess** was prohibited from possessing a firearm because in April of 2002 he was convicted in the Calloway County District Court in Murray, Kentucky, of Fourth Degree Assault, a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

If convicted, the maximum potential penalties are imprisonment of not more than 10 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and supervised release after incarceration for not more than 3 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Sparks, and it was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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Bess is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on March 1, 2005, at 1:30 p.m., in Paducah, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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