



# PRESS NOTICE

## REGINALD I. LLOYD UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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**January 29, 2008**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSING GUN IN PAGELAND**

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Reginald I. Lloyd stated today that Juan Casterjon Gaspar, age 47, of Pageland, South Carolina, was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment by United States District Judge R. Bryan Harwell, for being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm and ammunition. After serving his sentence, Gaspar will be subject to deportation.

In June 2007, officers of the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office and SLED were preparing for a controlled drug purchase operation scheduled to take place later that evening near Pageland, when Gaspar approached carrying a shot gun. After being told to drop his weapon, Gaspar started to point the loaded .20 gauge shot gun at the officer when he was being arrested. When interviewed, Gaspar admitted that he had been in the United States illegally for seventeen years.

The case was investigated by the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office, SLED, and agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Assistant United States Attorney A. Bradley Parham of the Florence office prosecuted the case as part of Operation CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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