



PRESS NOTICE

KEVIN F. MCDONALD
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*1441 Main Street, Suite 500 * Columbia, SC 29201 * (803) 929-3000**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT PERSON: KEVIN F. MCDONALD
(803) 929-3000

LITTLE RIVER COUPLE SENTENCED

Columbia, South Carolina---- Acting United States Attorney Kevin F. McDonald stated that Dennis Purcha, II, age 30, and Latrisha Purcha, age 28, both of Little River, South Carolina, were sentenced to 50 and 38 months imprisonment respectively by United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten for being felons in possession of a firearm.

Conway police stopped the Purchas' car last March for a defective license plate. The Purchas gave conflicting statements to the police as to where they had been just before being stopped. After receiving consent to search the car, officers found a loaded sawed-off shotgun, 19 additional rounds of ammunition, a crack pipe, and other drug paraphernalia.

The Purchas are both convicted felons, prohibited by federal law from

possessing firearms. Both have multiple state convictions for theft and drugs.

The case was investigated by the Conway Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Assistant United States Attorney Rose Mary Parham of the Florence office prosecuted the case as part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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