



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**MARCH 10, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE  
**KC, INDEPENDENCE FELONS SENTENCED**  
**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, Mo., man and an Independence, Mo., man were sentenced in federal court today, in separate and unrelated cases, for being felons in possession of a firearm. Today's sentencings, Graves said, mark additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

\* **Robbie J. Sullivan**, 27, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to four years and three months in federal prison without parole, which will be served consecutively to a five-year state sentence he received previously.

On Oct. 31, 2003, **Sullivan** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Sullivan** admitted that he was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .44 caliber revolver on July 3, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Sullivan** has three 2001 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute, tampering and possession of a controlled substance.

**Sullivan** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Aug. 21, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

\* **Micheal E. Tutor**, 30, of Independence, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On Nov. 14, 2003, **Tutor** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Tutor** admitted that he was in possession of a Titan .25 caliber pistol on Sept. 22, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Tutor** has two 1998 criminal felony convictions for ethnic intimidation and unlawful use of a weapon.

**Tutor** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 7, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelsen. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

### **Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

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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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)