



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PROJECT CEASEFIRE**  
**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS MAN SENTENCED FOR**  
**ILLEGAL FIREARMS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Excelsior Springs, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of firearms. Today's sentencing, Graves said, marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Bobby D. Crippen**, 25, of Excelsior Springs, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to six years and five months in federal prison without parole.

On March 9, 2004, **Crippen** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of firearms. **Crippen** admitted that he was in possession of an Ithaca 12 gauge sawed-off shotgun and a H&R .22 caliber revolver when he was arrested by Kearney, Mo., police officers on Sept. 10, 2003. The shotgun had been stolen from the Braymer, Mo., Police Department. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Crippen** has a 1999 criminal felony conviction for receiving stolen property, two 1996 criminal felony convictions for receiving stolen property and two more 1996 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance and attempted burglary.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelsen. It was investigated by the Clay County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Kearney, 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

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