



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO GUN CHARGE

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Robert Andrew Stokes**, 53, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, entered a guilty plea today before U.S. District Judge Richard D. Rogers to one count of **being a felon in possession of a firearm**.

Melgren said that Stokes admitted at his plea that on July 20, 2002, he was a passenger in a vehicle stopped by a deputy with the Russell County Sheriff's office on I-70 in Russell County, Kansas, for a traffic violation. Stokes admitted that during a subsequent search of his person, the officer found a loaded pistol concealed in his pants pocket. Stokes further admitted that he had previously been convicted of a felony, robbery, in County of Bronx, New York.

Stokes faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison, without parole, for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing is set for October 15, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Russell County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Hough in this prosecution.