



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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NOVEMBER 17, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARTHAGE FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Carthage, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing firearms.

David M. Garner, 44, of Carthage, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to one year and six months in federal prison without parole.

On June 28, 2004, **Garner** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of several firearms. By pleading guilty, **Garner** admitted that he was in possession of one revolver, two pistols, two rifles and a shotgun, with ammunition, on Feb. 6, 2004, in Jasper County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Garner** has a 1986 criminal felony conviction for stealing firearms in Lawrence County, Mo.

Garner was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 1, 2004, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. It was investigated by the Carthage, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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