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For Immediate Release

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REPORT WEEKLY RESULTS OF ST. LOUIS REGIONAL CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE

St. Louis, Missouri: The following represents the prosecution activities under the St. Louis Regional Ceasefire Initiative, a component of the Bush Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, United States Attorney James G. Martin announced today.

These cases are the result of the collaborative efforts of federal and local law enforcement including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office, the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

This week's results of Project Safe Neighborhood/Ceasefire are as follows:

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BERNARD WHITFIELD, 30, of the 3700 block of Lawler, Northwoods, 63121, was sentenced to 21 months in prison on one felony count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

LASTARZA V. NEAL, 26, of the 1300 block of Belt, St. Louis, was sentenced to 110 months in prison on one felony count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, one felony count of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and one felony count of possession of heroin, a controlled substance drug.

MICHAEL RABBITT, 39, of the 2000 block of Senate, St. Louis, 63118, was sentenced to 10 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

RANDY HUMPHREY, 39, of the 8100 block of Toddy, St. Louis, pled guilty to two felony counts of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, one felony count of possession with intent to distribute heroin and one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Humphrey now faces a penalty range of five years to life in prison and or fines up to \$4,000,000. Sentencing has been set for December 10, 2004.

DAJUAN LESTER, 26, of the 7500 block of Balfour, St. Louis, 63133, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Lester now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for December 12, 2004.

MARCUS STIDMAN, a/k/a MARCUS MOORE, 20, of the 1500 block of Cochran, St. Louis, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm, one felony count of distribution marijuana, one felony count of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and one felony count of carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime. Stidman now faces a maximum penalty of life in prison and/or fines up to \$2,000,000. Sentencing has been set for December 12, 2004.

ERIC DAVIS, 23, of the 2700 block of Ann, St. Louis, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute over 100 grams of heroin, one felony count of distribution of in excess of 100 grams of heroin, one felony count of possession with intent to distribute in excess of 100 grams of heroin, one felony count of possession with intent to distribute a quantity of marijuana, one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime and one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted, Davis faces a maximum penalty of life in prison and or fines up to \$6,000,000.

EDWARD MARTIN, 27, of the 2000 block of Grimm, Arnold, Missouri was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of possession of a stolen firearm and one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Martin faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a fine of \$500,000.

BRUCE VOEGTLIN, 41, of the 3600 block of Griffith, Farmington, Missouri was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of possession of a stolen firearm and one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Voegtlin faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a fine of \$500,000.

NICHOLAS MITRA, 25, Georgia Spur, Fenton, Missouri, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of possession of a stolen firearm and one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Mitra faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a fine of \$500,000.

JOHN TAMUL, 36, of the 200 block of Frisco Drive, Festus, Missouri, was indicted by a federal

grand jury on one felony count of possession of a stolen firearm and one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Tamul faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a fine of \$500,000.

THOMAS SEBASTIAN, 53, of the 2600 block of Lucas Lane, Festus, Missouri, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Sebastian faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

CHARLES VOEGTLIN, JR. 33, of the 3900 block of Illinois Street, St. Louis, 63118, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of conspiracy to possess stolen firearms. If convicted, Voegtlin faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.