



# The United States Attorney's Office

## Western District of Kentucky

Department of Justice



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January 7, 2008

#### **LOUISVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT AND FIREARMS CHARGES**

Man made over \$70,000 worth of copyright-violated CDs and DVDs

LOUISVILLE, KY - Christopher Royce Hinkle, age 35, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, was sentenced to 2 years and 3 months imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for willfully infringing the copyrights of sound recordings, motion pictures, and audio-visual works, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today.

Chief Judge John G. Heyburn, II, United States District Court, also sentenced Hinkle to 3 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Hinkle previously plead guilty to willfully infringing the copyrights of sounds recordings by reproducing copies of compact discs (CDs) valued at \$32,152.00 and motion pictures and audio-visual works by reproducing copies of digital video recordings (DVDs) valued at \$41,002.00, for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain, between April 1, 2005 and April 7, 2006, and between April 7, 2006 and February 2, 2007, for a total loss of \$73,154.00. Hinkle admitted to possessing computer towers, duplicators, a DVD decrypter, and spindles of CDs and DVDs, which were used to make the copyright-violated CDs and DVDs. Hinkle also admitted that on April 7, 2006, he possessed a ROMO .22 caliber revolver after having been convicted of burglary, a felony, in Dallas, Texas, in 1990 and that he possessed the firearm to "protect his business."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ann Claire Phillips, and it was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department.

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