



# Department of Justice

**Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, October 10, 2008

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS

(317) 229-2403

Fax: (317) 226-5002

Cell: (317) 590-7928

## **INDIANAPOLIS MAN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 15 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR FIREARM POSSESSION**

### PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MARCUS SYKES, 31, of Indianapolis, was sentenced to 15 years, 8 months imprisonment Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following his guilty plea to unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. This case was the result of a joint investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

SYKES was arrested on March 11, 2008, after an Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Officer was flagged down by citizens reporting that someone had just tried to rob them in the parking lot of a Rural Inn off Michigan Street. As the officer was obtaining information from the victims, the SYKES was seen walking across the street. The victims pointed SYKES out to police and indicated that he was robber. As officers approached SYKES, they observed him take a black revolver from his pocket and throw it on the ground. SYKES walked about fifteen feet away from the gun and was taken into custody without further incident.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Matthew Rinka, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney also imposed five (5) years supervised release following SYKES's release from imprisonment. Because SYKES had three or more convictions for either crimes of violence or serious drug offenses, he was considered an Armed Career Criminal under federal law. As an Armed Career Criminal, SYKES was subject to a sentence of at least 15 years.

###