



Department of Justice

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MAN WHO IMPERSONATED ATF AGENT SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS FOR POSSESSING SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN

Atlanta, GA - GARFIELD NORRIES ROYES, 37, of Woodstock, Georgia was sentenced today by United States District Judge Charles A. Pannell, Jr. on a charge of possessing an unregistered sawed-off shotgun and a homemade firearm silencer.

“This defendant is a dangerous criminal who impersonated a law enforcement officer and possessed a sawed-off shotgun and a homemade silencer,” said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. “Today he received the lengthy jail sentence that he deserves.”

“Our investigation revealed that, after having previously sustained no less than three felony convictions for armed robbery, Garfield Royes admittedly posed as an ATF agent, during the commission of an armed, home invasion,” stated Vanessa L. McLemore, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. “Today’s sentencing of Mr. Royes validates that his only career is being an authentic career criminal.”

ROYES was sentenced to 10 years in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. ROYES was convicted of this charge on May 26, 2006.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: In 2003, the defendant pretended to be a Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco & Explosives (ATF) agent while robbing suspected drug dealers. After one such attempted robbery in May 2003, police found a tank-top affixed with the letters “ATF” along with a firearm near the scene of the attempted robbery. The defendant was later arrested in June 2003, while attempting to flee from police officers executing an arrest warrant at his home. During a subsequent search of defendant’s home, officers found a 12-gauge short-barreled (i.e., sawed-off) shotgun, a homemade firearm silencer, and ammunition. The defendant is a multiple convicted felon who is not allowed to possess firearms or ammunition. Additionally, neither the sawed-off shotgun nor the homemade silencer were registered in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, as is required by law.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the ATF, with assistance from the Atlanta Police Department, the Cobb County Police Department, and the Cobb County Sheriff's Department.

Assistant United States Attorney Aaron M. Danzig prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.