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ROCKFORD MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL CARJACKING CHARGES

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ANDREW L. TRAVER, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; PHILLIP J. NICOLOSI, Winnebago County State's Attorney; and CHET EPPERSON, Rockford Police Chief, today made the following announcement:

A federal grand jury in Rockford today indicted **FREDERICK S. BOND**, 48, Rockford, Illinois, on federal charges of carjacking, using and carrying firearms during and in relation to a crime of violence, illegally possessing an unregistered "sawed-off" shotgun and possessing firearms as a convicted felon in relation to an incident which took place in Rockford, Illinois on December 24, 2007. Bond was arrested by Rockford Police officers on December 24, 2007 and has been held in state custody since his arrest.

Bond will be arraigned on the indictment on February 21, 2008 at 11:15 a.m. The arraignment will be conducted by United States Magistrate Judge P. Michael Mahoney at the federal courthouse in Rockford.

The charge of carjacking contained in the indictment carries a maximum possible penalty of 15 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, up to 3 years of supervised release following imprisonment, and full restitution. In addition, Bond faces a mandatory consecutive sentence of at least 7 years for using a firearm during a crime of violence, which must be ordered to run consecutively to any sentence imposed for the carjacking conviction. Bond faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, a fine of not more than \$10,000 and up to 3 years of supervised release for possessing the sawed-off shotgun. The charge of possessing firearms as a convicted felon carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, a \$250,000 fine and up to 3 years of supervised release. If Bond is convicted, his actual sentence will be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

First charged by the Winnebago County States Attorney's Office under state law, Bond was transferred to federal court where he was charged under tough federal firearms laws as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods program. Project Safe Neighborhoods is an intensive, cooperative effort between local, state, and federal law enforcement to attack gun crimes. The cornerstone of the program is that every state defendant with a gun will be reviewed for possible federal prosecution in order to obtain the harshest penalties for the worst offenders. Additional information about Project Safe Neighborhoods may be found at www.psn.gov.

The case was investigated by Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Rockford Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving the guilt of the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.

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