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ROCKFORD MAN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 24 YEARS IN PRISON FOR FEDERAL CARJACKING AND FIREARMS 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; PHILIP J. NICOLOSI, Winnebago County State's Attorney; and CHET EPPERSON, Rockford Police Chief, today made the following announcement:

Today, United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala sentenced **FREDERICK S. BOND**, 49, Rockford, Illinois, to 290 months' imprisonment for carjacking and using and carrying firearms during and in relation to the carjacking 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 custody since his arrest.

Bond pled guilty to the charges on August 4, 2008. In pleading guilty, Bond admitted that on December 24, 2007, he entered a 2003 Ford Focus that was parked at a restaurant parking lot on State Street in Rockford and occupied by one individual sitting in the driver's seat. Bond admitted that when he entered the 2003 Ford Focus, which had been manufactured outside the state of Illinois, he was armed with a sawed-off shotgun and a .357 caliber revolver. According to the plea agreement, Bond forced the victim to drive Bond to various locations in Rockford including a gas station and convenience store on State Street where Bond forced the victim to withdraw \$200 in cash from the victim's bank account using an ATM. Bond admitted that he took the \$200 from the victim before they left the convenience store. Bond further admitted that he forced the victim to continue to drive around Rockford and that eventually, the victim drove Bond back to the same convenience store where the victim had previously withdrawn \$200 from an ATM. Bond also admitted that he approached another customer in the parking lot of the convenience store, displayed the sawed-off shotgun that Bond had concealed inside his jacket, and demanded that the customer give Bond a ride. The customer agreed to give Bond a ride but told Bond that he needed to pay for his gas first. When the customer went inside the store, he asked the clerk to call the police and a Rockford Police Department officer arrived shortly thereafter. Bond admitted that when the officer arrived Bond walked away from the officer and threw the sawed-off shotgun on the ground. Bond was then apprehended by Rockford Police officers. Bond admitted that when he was arrested, he had a .357 caliber revolver in his back pants pocket.

Bond was also ordered to pay a \$500 fine, and to serve five years of supervised release following imprisonment, and full restitution on the carjacking charge.

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

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