



October 8, 2004  
For Immediate Release

## **ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT ATTORNEY AND UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REPORT WEEKLY RESULTS OF ST. LOUIS REGIONAL CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE**

St. Louis, Missouri: The following represents the prosecution activities under the St. Louis Regional Ceasefire Initiative, a component of the Bush Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, United States Attorney James G. Martin and St. Louis Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce announced today.

These cases are the result of the collaborative efforts of federal and local law enforcement including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office, the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

This week's results of Project Safe Neighborhood/Ceasefire are as follows:

### **ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:**

JARRELL BROOKS, 19, of the 2900 block of Michigan, was found guilty by a jury of two counts of murder 1st degree and two counts of armed criminal action on October 7, 2004. Brooks will be sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole when he is sentenced on December 10, 2004 by Judge David Mason.

JERMAINE EWING, 27, of the 5600 block of Summit Place was guilty by jury of one count of assault first degree and one count of armed criminal action on August 4, 2004. On October 7, 2004, Ewing was sentenced to serve 20 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections by Judge Timothy Wilson. Ewing must serve at least 85% of this sentence before he is eligible for parole.

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

TENEAL DRAYTON, 22, of the 6100 block of Payne, St. Louis, 63135, was sentenced to 106 months in prison, without parole, on two felony counts of delivery of crack cocaine and one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

DERICK HOWARD, 35, of the 4400 block of Kossuth, St. Louis, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Howard now faces a penalty range of ten years to life in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for January 7, 2005.

WAYMAN L. JOHNSON, 63, of the 6800 block of Route VV, Columbia, Missouri, pled guilty to one felony count of being a felon in possession of a firearm and one felony count of being a felon in possession of ammunition. Johnson now faces a maximum penalty of twenty years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for January 5, 2005.

CHARLES MERRIDITH, 61, of the 1800 block of Laflin, St. Louis, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted, Merridith faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.