



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT CEASEFIRE
**JURY CONVICTS KC MAN OF
FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATION**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was convicted by a federal jury today of being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Anthony K. Anderson, 29, of Kansas City, Mo., was found guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Following **Anderson's** trial, Graves said, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City deliberated less than 30 minutes before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey, ending a trial that began this morning.

When Kansas City, Mo., police officers stopped a vehicle driven by **Anderson** on Feb. 26, 2003, they found a Smith & Wesson .357 revolver underneath the seat of the vehicle. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any handgun or ammunition. **Anderson** has a 1994 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance in Jackson County, Mo.

As a result of today's conviction, **Anderson** could be subject to a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms for federal prosecution. Project Ceasefire has resulted in federal charges against 459 defendants, and convictions against 391 of those defendants, including 366 who pleaded guilty and 25 who were convicted at trial. A total of 336 of the 390 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 54 currently await sentencing hearings.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow