



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT CEASEFIRE
JURY CONVICTS KC MAN
FOR POSSESSING AMMUNITION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City man was convicted by a federal jury today for violating a federal firearms law.

Phillip E. Boose, 21, of Kansas City, was found guilty of being a felon in possession of ammunition today by a jury in the U.S. District Court. Following **Boose's** trial, Graves said, the jury deliberated about two hours before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs. The trial began Thursday, May 29, 2003.

The jury found **Boose** guilty of being in possession of .32 caliber rounds of ammunition on Dec. 31, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, possession of any firearm or ammunition by a felon is illegal. **Boose** has five prior 2000 criminal felony convictions, including three for sale of a controlled substance, one for possession of a controlled substance and one for trafficking.

Boose was arrested for possessing ammunition on Dec. 31, 2002, when law enforcement officers observed him driving his vehicle over the center line of a roadway near 59th Street and South 71 Highway. Upon stopping the vehicle, Graves said, **Boose** fled his pickup truck across the highway. With the assistance of a police helicopter, law enforcement officers were able to follow **Boose** until he entered a residence at 6018 Agnes St. He was found hiding under a bed at that residence. **Boose** was then placed under arrest for the traffic charges and during a custodial search law enforcement officers found the ammunition on his person.

Boose was originally charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 21, 2003.

As a result of today's conviction, **Boose** may face at least 15 years in federal prison without parole, plus a \$25,000 fine. **Boose's** 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 U.S. Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess Michaelson and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael J. Hunt. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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 432 defendants, and convictions against 363 of those defendants, including 339 who pleaded guilty and 24 who were convicted at trial. A total of 319 of the 363 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 43 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