



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NITRO UPDATE
**TRENTON, MO., MAN CHARGED WITH
FEDERAL FIREARM VIOLATION**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Trenton, Mo., man has been charged in federal court for being a felon in possession of firearms. Graves said the case, part of the district's ongoing Project Ceasefire anti-crime initiative, is the result of the work of the NITRO task force.

David E. Briegel, 48, of Trenton, Mo., is charged with being a felon in possession of a number of firearms and ammunition, according to the criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City on Jan. 15, 2003.

The complaint alleges that on Nov. 27, 2002, **Briegel** was in possession of a Mossberg 20-gauge shotgun, a Savage 30-30 caliber rifle, a Harrington and Richardson .410 shotgun, a Marlin .22 caliber rifle, a Stevens 12-gauge shotgun, a Remington .243 caliber rifle with three rounds of ammunition, and a Winchester 30-30 caliber rifle with eight rounds of ammunition. Under federal law, Graves explained, possession of any firearm or ammunition by a felon is illegal. **Briegel** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for driving a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

Graves said the firearms were found in **Briegel's** home and in a vehicle on the property when law enforcement officers executed a search warrant during a state investigation in a separate case.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the criminal complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce E. Clark. The case was

investigated by NITRO, the Northwest Missouri Team Response Operation.

NITRO is the Northwest Missouri Team Response Operation, a joint law enforcement effort by the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the 16-county northwest Missouri region. Project Ceasefire is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement that targets persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms for federal prosecution.



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