



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

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

APRIL 10, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NITRO UPDATE
**SPICKARD, MO., MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATION**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Spickard, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to 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, 49, of Spickard, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 28, 2003.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Briegel** admitted that on Nov. 27, 2002, he 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.

As a result of today's guilty plea, **Briegel** could be subject to a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole. **Briegel'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.



The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. The case was investigated by NITRO, the Northwest Missouri Team Response Operation. NITRO is 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

