



# 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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**OCTOBER 17, 2003**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **THREE DEFENDANTS SENTENCED, ANOTHER PLEADS GUILTY TO FIREARMS VIOLATION**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that three defendants were sentenced and another pleaded guilty in federal court, in separate and unrelated cases, today for illegally possessing firearms.

\* **Joshua S. Bullard**, 25, of Joplin, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning two years in federal prison without parole for being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of firearms.

On July 11, 2003, **Bullard** pleaded guilty to being an unlawful user of methamphetamine and marijuana while also in possession of firearms. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he possessed a Rohm .38 caliber revolver, two Browning .22 caliber rifles, a Savage .308 caliber rifle and a Mini 30 rifle on May 1, 2002, in Jasper County, Mo.

**Bullard** was originally charged with being a felon in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 22, 2003, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. The case was investigated by the Joplin, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

\* **Craig A. Case**, 46, of Summersville, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning two years and three months in federal prison without parole for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On June 4, 2003, **Case** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Case** admitted that he was in possession of a Norinco SKS rifle on Nov. 2, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony

to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Case** has a 2002 criminal felony conviction for assault.

**Case** was originally charged with being a felon in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 3, 2003, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas D. Gaston. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

\* **Landon Newton**, 23, of Seymour, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to one year and three months in federal prison without parole for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On May 9, 2003, **Newton** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Newton** admitted that he was in possession of a Savage .22 caliber rifle and ammunition on Feb. 15, 2002, in Jasper County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Newton** has a 2001 criminal felony conviction for stealing.

**Newton** was originally charged with being a felon in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 18, 2002, in Springfield. However, he later pleaded guilty to charges contained in a federal information.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

\* **Brian Kelly**, 38, of Harrison, Ark., pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

By pleading guilty, **Kelly** admitted that he was in possession of a Glock 9 mm handgun on April 9, 2003, in Vernon County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Kelly** has two 1990 criminal felony convictions for burglary and theft of property.

**Kelly** was originally charged with being a felon in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 10, 2003, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas D. Gaston. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Vernon County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

\*\*\*\*\*

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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)