



# 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 7, 2003**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NITRO UPDATE  
**ST. JOSEPH, CAMERON AND IOWA FELONS INDICTED  
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that three defendants were indicted today, in separate and unrelated cases, by a federal grand jury for being felons in possession of firearms. The indictments, Graves said, are the result of work completed by the NITRO Task Force.

\* **Dion M. Clark**, 37, of St. Joseph, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Clark** was in possession of a Savage 12-gauge shotgun, with a barrel of less than 18.5 inches, on June 21, 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. **Clark** has a 1994 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

**Clark** originally was charged in a criminal complaint filed in federal court on Sept. 26, 2003, in Kansas City. Today's indictment replaces that criminal complaint.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the complaint, Clark was arrested after law enforcement officers received a call regarding a person in possession of a firearm.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the NITRO Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. NITRO is the Northwest Missouri Interagency 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 region.

\* **George Franklin Miller, Jr.**, 30, of Cameron, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Miller** was in possession of a commemorative Missouri State Highway Patrol Smith and Wesson .357 caliber revolver on May 25, 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. **Miller** has two 1996 criminal felony convictions for felony theft and attempted theft and a 1997 criminal felony conviction for felony burglary.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Rhoades. It was investigated by the NITRO Task Force, the Cameron, Mo., Police Department and the DeKalb County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

\* **Penny Sue Adams**, 50, of Centerville, Iowa, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Adams** was in possession of a Bryco Arms .22 caliber handgun on July 28, 2003, in Livingston 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. **Adams** has a 1985 criminal felony conviction for extortion and a 1984 criminal felony conviction for kidnapping.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Rhoades. It was investigated by the NITRO Task Force and the Chillicothe, Mo., Police Department.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

\*\*\*\*\*

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)

