



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**OCTOBER 20, 2003**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE  
**KC FELON SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. The case is being prosecuted under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Jason D. Cummings**, 23, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to two years and eight months in federal prison without parole for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On June 3, 2003, **Cummings** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of two firearms. By pleading guilty, **Cummings** admitted that he was in possession of a Ruger .45 caliber pistol and a Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun on March 12, 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. **Cummings** has two 1997 criminal felony convictions for burglary.

**Cummings** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 16, 2003, in Kansas City.

**Cummings** was initially arrested for illegal possession of a firearm on March 12, 2003, in Kansas City, after holding a victim hostage at a residence in the 5200 block of Hickory and discharging one of the two firearms from a closet.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms 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 for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

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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

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