



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NITRO UPDATE

LUDLOW, MO., MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FIREARMS CHARGE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Ludlow, Mo., man pleaded guilty today to being a felon in possession of a firearm. Graves said the case is the result of the work of the NITRO task force.

Dwayne Lee Else, 37, of Ludlow, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 2, 2003, in Kansas City.

By pleading guilty, **Else** admitted that he was in possession of a Sturm, Ruger and Company .223 semi-automatic rifle on March 19, 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. **Else** has a 2000 criminal felony conviction for driving while intoxicated in Johnson County, Mo.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Else** may face up to 10 years in federal prison. His 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 United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelsen. The case was investigated by the NITRO Task Force, the Livingston County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, and the Braymer, Mo., Police Department. 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 region.

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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