



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
GRANDVIEW FELON SENTENCED FOR
FIREARM POSSESSION

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

Lucas M. Fosberg, 21, of Grandview, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 25, 2003, **Fosberg** pleaded guilty to an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 19, 2002. By pleading guilty, **Fosberg** admitted that he was in possession of a Browning Arms .22 caliber pistol on October 18, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to possess any firearm or ammunition. **Fosberg** has a previous criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. The case was investigated by the Grandview, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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 persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms for federal prosecution. Project Ceasefire has resulted in federal charges against 432 defendants, and convictions against 353 of those defendants, including 330 who pleaded guilty and 23 who were convicted at trial. A total of 310 of the 353 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 43 currently await sentencing hearings.

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