



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEASEFIRE UPDATE

RAYTOWN WOMAN CHARGED WITH FIREARMS VIOLATION FOLLOWING HIGH-SPEED PURSUIT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the passenger of a vehicle that was involved in a high-speed pursuit has been charged with violating federal firearms law.

Eva J. Long, 34, of Raytown, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition in a complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City on July 23, 2003.

Long was the passenger in a red Camaro that was stopped by an Independence, Mo., police officer at approximately 1 a.m. Wednesday, July 23, 2003, Graves said. The officer approached the car, which had allegedly stolen license plates, and asked the driver for his driver's license and insurance information. The driver placed the Camaro in drive and fled the scene at a high rate of speed, with the officer in pursuit.

Graves said the pursuit, which reached speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour, eventually ended in the area of NW 61st Street and Prairie View Road in Kansas City-North, where **Long** was taken into custody. An ammunition box containing 42 rounds of .380 caliber ammunition was found on the rear seat of the Camaro.

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. **Long** has two 1998 criminal felony convictions for sale of a controlled substance and conspiracy to manufacture and distribute a controlled substance, both in Cass County, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the federal complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jess E. Michaelson. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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