



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
**FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS
FELONS IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that several felons were indicted, in separate and unrelated cases, by a federal grand jury today for violating federal firearms law. Today's indictments are part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

***Jerry N. Barry**, 61, of Independence, 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 **Barry** was in possession of a Universal .30 caliber rifle on May 27, 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. **Barry** has been convicted of more than three violent felonies dating back to 1963, which classifies him as a violent career offender. Since 1963 he has been convicted of nine criminal felonies, including murder, robbery, burglary, two firearm violations, two possession of a controlled substance convictions, stealing a motor vehicle and tampering.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce E. Clark. It was investigated by the Peculiar, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

***Frank Robinson**, 37, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm on two separate occasions.

Count One of the superseding indictment alleges that **Robinson** was in possession of a Sturm Ruger 9 mm semi-automatic pistol on May 31, 2002. Count Two of the indictment alleges that **Robinson** was in possession of a Sig-Sauer 9 mm semi-automatic pistol and a Sears .22

caliber semi-automatic rifle on April 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. **Robinson** has a criminal felony conviction for stealing. Today's superseding indictment replaces an earlier indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 26, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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.

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. Project Ceasefire has resulted in federal charges against 435 defendants, and convictions against 370 of those defendants, including 346 who pleaded guilty and 24 who were convicted at trial. A total of 324 of the 370 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 46 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