



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**MAY 14, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE**  
**FIVE FELONS INDICTED FOR POSSESSING**  
**FIREARMS, AMMUNITION**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that five defendants were indicted, in separate and unrelated cases, by a federal grand jury today for violating federal firearms laws. The cases mark additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

\***Xavier E. Holmes**, 54, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Holmes** was in possession of a Webley .455 caliber revolver on May 6, 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. **Holmes** has 12 previous criminal felony convictions dating back to 1974, with the most recent occurring in 2002. Among the felony convictions are manslaughter, assault and possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

**Holmes** was initially charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in a criminal complaint filed on May 7, 2003 in Kansas City. According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Holmes** was arrested on May 6, 2003, after law enforcement officers responded to a call regarding a disturbance involving a person armed with a gun in the 3000 block of McGee in Kansas City. Today's indictment replaces that criminal complaint.

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

\***Thomas R. Samples**, 39, of Longmont, Colo., was charged in a single-count indictment

returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of ammunition.

The federal indictment alleges that **Samples** was in possession of 106 rounds of .22 caliber ammunition on April 30, 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. **Samples** has a 2002 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon and a 1990 criminal felony conviction for robbery.

**Samples** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition in a criminal complaint, filed on May 1, 2003, in Kansas City. According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Samples** was arrested on April 30, 2003 on U.S. 71 Highway hitchhiking to Arkansas. Today's indictment replaces that criminal complaint.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Belton, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

**\*Rodney E. Kindall**, 36, of Kansas City, Kan., was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Kindall** was in possession of a Llama, .22 caliber revolver with a damaged serial number on Jan. 11, 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. **Kindall** has two 1996 criminal felony convictions for aggravated assault and one 1996 criminal felony conviction for theft.

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

**\*Andre Booker**, 29, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Booker** was in possession of a Sig Sauer pistol on May 2, 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. **Booker** has two 1993 criminal felony convictions for stealing a motor vehicle and tampering.

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

**\*Saline R. Garner**, 18, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Garner** was in possession of a Savage Arms 12 gauge shotgun on May 3, 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. **Garner** has a 2002 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce E. Clark. 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 the 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 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 309 of the 353 convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 44 currently await sentencing hearings.

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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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