



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SUMMERSVILLE MAN SENTENCED FOR SHOOTING HELICOPTER**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Summersville, Mo., man has been sentenced in federal court for shooting into a Missouri National Guard helicopter.

**Jimmie Leroy Shriver**, 53, of Summersville, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple on Feb. 19, 2003, to 13 years and five months in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered Shriver to pay more than \$11,000 in restitution to repair damage to the helicopter.

On Oct. 16, 2002, **Shriver** pleaded guilty to one count of willfully damaging a Missouri National Guard helicopter and performing an act of violence against persons inside by shooting into it with a firearm, and one count of carrying or possessing a firearm during and in relation to a federal crime of violence. Graves explained that **Shriver** was sentenced to three years and five months in prison on Count One and to 10 years in prison on the firearm charge.

**Shriver** was arrested on Sept. 3, 2002, after shooting a Missouri National Guard helicopter that was flying over his residence, Graves said. The helicopter, which was piloted by a Missouri National Guardsman with a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper as a passenger, was damaged when a bullet passed through one blade of the main rotor. A second bullet struck and passed through the metal cowling enclosing some of the hydraulic parts, leaving a bullet hole in the cowling about two feet from the pilot's head.

The helicopter landed in a nearby field with no injury to either occupant, Graves said.

**Shriver** admitted that he knew the helicopter was a law enforcement aircraft. Graves explained that the guardsman and trooper were flying over sections of Texas County looking for growing marijuana.

**Shriver** shot at the helicopter with a Winchester .308 rifle and a Remington 12 gauge shotgun, Graves said. Two expended .308 caliber shells were later found on or near the deck of **Shriver's** mobile home. Three expended 12 gauge shells were found – one in the yard, one on the porch and one inside the front door.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Texas County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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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  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)