



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT CEASEFIRE **KC MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

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

Myron J. Toombs, 22, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to three years and 10 months in federal prison without parole.

On May 30, 2003, **Toombs** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Toombs** admitted that on Oct. 1, 2002, he was in possession of a Bryco Arms 9 mm pistol. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Toombs** has a 2002 criminal felony conviction for sodomy.

Toombs was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 26, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, 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 479 defendants, and convictions against 404 of those defendants, including 378 who pleaded guilty and 26 who were convicted at trial. A total of 352 of the 404

convicted defendants have been sentenced, and 52 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

