



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a convicted felon was sentenced in federal court today for violating a federal firearms law.

Michael Leon Williams, 42, address unknown, was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to 15 years in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 13, 2002, **Williams** pleaded guilty to a superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield on May 2, 2002. **Williams** admitted that on Aug. 24, in Greene County, Mo., he was in possession of a Intratec 9mm semi-automatic pistol and a Makarov 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Williams** has two 1988 criminal felony convictions for first degree robbery and a 1993 criminal felony conviction for second degree burglary.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

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