



Department of Justice

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Middle District of Florida

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REVOLVER & FIVE ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION LEADS TO MORE THAN 18 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ST. CLOUD MAN

Orlando, Florida - United States District Judge Gregory A. Presnell yesterday sentenced Christopher Samuel Carter (age 24, of St. Cloud) to 18 years in federal prison for a single charge of possession of ammunition by a convicted felon. Carter had previously been found guilty after a jury trial on January 23, 2009.

According to the facts presented at trial, on January 3, 2008, Carter was the front seat passenger in an automobile that was stopped in the area of Lee Road and Bennett Avenue by members of the Orange County Sheriff's Office. During the traffic stop, deputies saw Carter removing a loaded firearm from his waistband and attempt to conceal it under his seat. After Carter was removed from the automobile, deputies recovered a revolver containing five rounds of .22 caliber ammunition. As a previously convicted felon, Carter is prohibited from possessing ammunition under federal law. Furthermore, Carter's extensive criminal record qualified him as an Armed Career Criminal under the federal sentencing statutes.

This is another case prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" program - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative supported by ATF. United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton, along with Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Tampa Field Division, is coordinating the Project Safe

Neighborhoods effort here in the Middle District of Florida, in cooperation with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials. The program's objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders.

This case was jointly investigated by ATF, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert E. Bodnar, Jr., and J. Bishop Ravenel.