



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS NETS TWO GUILTY PLEAS TO FEDERAL GUN CRIMES

(Tyler, Texas) On Tuesday, two defendants pleaded guilty to federal firearms violations that were committed in the Eastern District of Texas.

Today, U.S. District Judge William Steger today accepted the guilty pleas of **TIMOTHY EARL BROWN**, age 22, and **JERRY LYNN ALLEN**, 22, both of Carthage, Texas, to separate counts of a multi-count indictment. **Brown** pleaded guilty to Being a Felon in Possession of a firearm--a .40 caliber stolen pistol. **Allen** pleaded guilty to Being in Possession of an Unregistered Firearm--a sawed off shotgun.

According to information prosecutors presented in court, the pair were arrested on August 6, 2002, after a Kilgore police officer stopped Brown and Allen's vehicle for a traffic violation in the 200 Block of State Highway 31 in Kilgore. They were arrested after the officer saw the end of what turned out to be a sawed off shotgun protruding from under the front seat of the car. Upon further search of the vehicle, the officer found a stolen firearm. In a separate incident, on February 20, 2004, the Panola County Sheriff's Department, in response to a citizen complaint, discovered two firearms which they linked to **Brown**. Brown is prohibited from possessing any firearms because of a previous conviction for Escape in Panola County.

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Brown/Allen Indictment
July 6, 2004
page 2

U.S. Attorney Matthew D. Orwig praised the cooperative effort of law enforcement in stopping this crime, "I want to thank the ATF, the Kilgore Police Department and the Panola County Sheriff's Office for their work in this case. Their actions make a real difference in making our communities safer from the use of illegal firearms."

Both Brown and Allen are facing a maximum penalty of ten years in prison as to each count of the Indictment to which they pleaded guilty as well as a \$250,000 fine in each of the counts. Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), is a comprehensive, strategic approach to gun law enforcement. PSN targets gun crime and violent offenders in an effort to make our communities safer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Allen Hurst is prosecuting the case.

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