



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS NETS FIREARM INDICTMENT

(Tyler, Texas) A federal grand jury has indicted a 41-year-old Lufkin man for committing federal firearm violations in the Eastern District of Texas. **WILLIAM JEFFEREY FERGUSON** was indicted today on four counts of Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

Angelina County Sheriff's Department suspected Ferguson in several burglaries in the Angelina County area. He was apprehended on November 22, 2003, by the Angelina County Sheriff's Department and four stolen firearms were found in the truck he was driving. Ferguson has three prior felony convictions. In 1985 he was convicted in Angelina County of Delivery of Marijuana; in 1994 he was convicted in Erath County of Forgery by Passing; and in 2000 he was convicted in Angelina County of Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a comprehensive strategic approach to reducing gun violence in America by promoting partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

If convicted, Ferguson is facing up to 10 years imprisonment, and a fine of up to \$250,000 for each count. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. A Grand Jury indictment is not evidence of guilt.

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The case is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Angelina County Sheriff's Department. Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Flourney is prosecuting the case.

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