



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **LIBERTY MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR POSSESSING BODY ARMOR, FIREARMS**

(Beaumont, Texas) A 29-year-old Liberty man has been sentenced to 70 months in federal prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm and felon in possession of body armor. **PRESTON LEE WALKER** was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Ron Clark.

According to information presented in court, Walker was arrested on November 12, 2003, during a traffic stop in which illegal drugs were located. Walker then gave the Liberty County Sheriff's Office and the Chambers County Narcotics Task Force permission to search his residence in Liberty. During the course of the search of Walker's residence, four firearms, a bullet proof vest and evidence of drug trafficking were discovered. Walker has a prior felony conviction for aggravated robbery from 1993 in Harris County.

Walker pleaded guilty to the charges of Felon in Possession of a Firearm and Felon in Possession of Body Armor on June 7, 2004. Walker is the first person prosecuted in the Eastern District of Texas for Felon in Possession of Body Armor.

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**Matthew D. Orwig, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, praised the law enforcement officers for getting another armed and dangerous felon off the streets, "A convicted felon has no business possessing firearms, and certainly not a bullet proof vest. These items were obviously not intended for anything other than violence and crime."**

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.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Liberty County Sheriff's Office and the Chambers County Narcotics Task Force. Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Englade prosecuted the case.

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