



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

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**SAN ANTONIO MAN SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
IN PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CASE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in San Antonio, 40-year-old Roland Hernandez was sentenced today to eight years in federal prison for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Orlando Garcia ordered that Hernandez be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On June 21, 2004, detectives with the San Antonio Police Department approached Hernandez in connection with an ongoing murder investigation. At the time, Hernandez had a .22 caliber semi-automatic pistol in his waistband. The detectives recovered the firearm and placed him under arrest. On May 13, 2005, Hernandez pled guilty to the felon-in-possession charge.

Hernandez' criminal history reflects a prior felony conviction for murder (1986, Bexar County, Texas) for which he served 13 of 18 years in state prison. Hernandez was on parole for that offense when he committed the federal firearms violation.

"Convicted felons need to understand that if they possess a gun, they are destined for federal prison, period. No probation, no parole," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

This case was investigated by the San Antonio Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Special Assistant United States Attorney Gerald H. Matheny prosecuted this case on behalf of the government.

The prosecution of this case is another example of how the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas is carrying out the Department of Justice's gun crime initiative - Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide federal initiative designed to reduce gun violence in our communities. PSN promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement to target criminals in possession of guns. Federal law insures that when an armed criminal is arrested, that individual will face swift criminal prosecution and be exiled from the community through the use of stiff mandatory prison sentences.

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