

**District of Minnesota**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Minneapolis - Donald A. Blom was sentenced today in United States District Court to 235 months (19½ years) in prison for his conviction as a felon in possession of a firearms. Blom was sentenced by Judge John Tunheim in Minneapolis. As a result of his three prior violent felony convictions, Blom faced an enhanced sentence as an Armed Career Criminal.

United States Attorney Todd Jones commented, "The law under which Donald Blom was sentenced today is clearly intended to bring the full weight of the Federal criminal justice system down on armed, habitual criminals. His sentence of 235 months will not only serve to protect the public from this defendant for a long time, it should also send a clear message to those convicted of multiple, serious felonies - if you get caught with a gun, you're done,"

Blom was convicted by a federal jury in November 1999 of possessing several firearms that were discovered in his Carlton County cabin during the execution of a search warrant in June 1999.

With a prior conviction in Washington County in 1984 for criminal sexual conduct and kidnapping, and convictions in Dakota County in 1982 for criminal sexual conduct, 1978 for aggravated assault and 1976 for kidnapping and criminal sexual conduct, Blom is prohibited by federal law from possessing firearms.

The case is the result of an investigation by the Carlton County Sheriff's Department, the Moose Lake Police Department, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney R.J. Zayed prosecuted the case.