

NEWS RELEASE

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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FREDERICKTOWN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

January 9, 2007

A Fredericktown, Missouri, man pled guilty today for unlawful possession of firearms, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

CRAIG THOMAS PRIDAY, age 28, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of firearms. He appeared before United States District Judge Henry E. Autrey.

On August 16, 2006, Special Agents for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) obtained consent from Jill Priday (Craig T. Priday's wife) to search Craig and Jill Priday's residence located in Fredericktown, Missouri. During the search of Priday's residence, the ATF agents discovered a Winchester, lever-action rifle, a Shapleigh's Nitro King, single barrel shotgun, a Springfield Arms Company, double barrel shotgun, a Japanese bolt-

action rifle, and numerous rounds of ammunition, all located in the Friday residence. The rifles and ammunition were seized by the law enforcement officers.

On August 29, 2006, ATF special agents interviewed Friday, who informed the agents that he had previously been convicted of assault and tampering in the first degree in Perry County, Missouri, and assault in Madison County, Missouri. Friday acknowledged that he possessed the firearms that had been found by the law enforcement officers in his residence. Due to Mr. Friday's prior felony convictions, he is prohibited by law from possessing firearms.

Friday now faces a maximum punishment of life imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing has been set for April 3, 2007.

Hanaway praised the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for its work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Paul W. Hahn handled the prosecution for the Government.