



PRESS RELEASE
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**GUN AND THREE ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION LEAD TO A NINETEEN-YEAR
PRISON SENTENCE FOR ORLANDO ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL**

Orlando, Florida - Senior United States District Judge G. Kendall Sharp today sentenced TRAVIS FERRELL GRIFFIN, age 31, of Orlando, to a term of 19 years and seven months' imprisonment on a single charge of possession of ammunition by a convicted felon. GRIFFIN had been found guilty of the offense after a federal jury trial on October 27, 2006.

According to the evidence presented at trial, on March 4, 2005, GRIFFIN was driving an automobile near the intersection of Parramore and West Kaley Street in City of Orlando. After failing to stop at a posted sign, GRIFFIN was stopped by members of the Orlando Police Department. GRIFFIN, who had no driver's license, was arrested by the officers. He subsequently admitted that he had given a loaded firearm to his girlfriend, a passenger in the car, as the police had pulled him over. When recovered by the officers, this handgun contained three rounds of .32 Auto caliber FIOCCHI ammunition. As a previously convicted felon, GRIFFIN is prohibited under federal law from possessing either firearms or ammunition.

The case represents the culmination of a cooperative effort between the United States Attorney's Office, the State Attorney's Office for Orange County, the City of Orlando Police Department, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms And Explosives ("ATF"). This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from ATF. United States Attorney Paul I. Perez is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert E. Bodnar, Jr., and Tanya Davis Wilson.