

# NEWS



*United States Department of Justice  
U. S. Attorney, Eastern District of Louisiana  
500 Poydras Street, Suite B210  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130*

## **JIM LETTEN, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

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Contact: Immediate Release  
Kathy English February 2, 2007  
(504) 680-3068

## **CONVICTED FELON ATTEMPTING TO ILLEGALLY PURCHASE AUTOMATIC HANDGUN ARRESTED BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES**

**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA** - Jim Letten, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and David G. Harper, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), announced today that **JERMAINE MYLES**, 32, of Gretna, Louisiana, was arrested on January 30, 2007, for possession of a firearm while being a convicted felon. A criminal complaint was issued on January 31, 2007, by United States Magistrate Judge Louis Moore, Jr, based on facts uncovered in an investigation by ATF Special Agents.

On January 25, 2007, ATF agents learned that **MYLES** entered B.J.'s Pawnshop, in Gretna, Louisiana, and inquired whether the pawnshop would sell him a handgun even though he

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was a convicted felon. In exchange for the pawnshop's cooperation, **MYLES** stated he would pay an amount several times in excess of the handgun's price.

In response, Special Agents initiated a surveillance operation at the pawnshop. **MYLES** returned to the pawnshop several times in the following days and repeatedly requested that the pawnshop sell him a handgun.

On January 30, 2007, ATF agents were hidden inside the pawnshop and **MYLES** returned once again seeking a handgun. At that time, the pawnshop, under the direction of the ATF, sold **MYLES** a handgun. Upon exiting the store, **MYLES** was arrested pursuant to Title 18 United States Code, Section 922(g)(1).

**MYLES** faces up to ten (10) years imprisonment, up to a \$250,000.00 fine, and up to three (3) years of supervised release following any term of imprisonment.

U. S. Attorney Letten reminds the press and public that the defendant is presumed innocent of these charges until he either pleads guilty or is found guilty by a judge or jury.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sean Toomey.

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