

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
February 14, 2007**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Western District of Kentucky**

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**WARREN COUNTY MAN SENTENCED ON
METHAMPHETAMINE AND FIREARMS CHARGES**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today that **BRADLEY JOE BECKHAM**, age 30, of 1080 Three Forks Road, Smiths Grove, Kentucky, in Warren County, **was sentenced** in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute, carrying a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and possession of an unregistered sawed-off shotgun.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Beckham** to 7 years and 6 months imprisonment, plus 3 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Beckham pled guilty to and admitted that on April 6, 2005, in Barren County, Kentucky, he possessed approximately three grams of methamphetamine (street value \$300) with the intent

to distribute it, and that during and in relation to that drug trafficking crime, he carried an Iver Johnson .22 caliber revolver. He also admitted that on that same date, he possessed a Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, which had not been registered in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, and that he possessed both firearms after having been convicted in Hardin Circuit Court in 2003 of complicity to possess a methamphetamine precursor, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year. The drugs and firearms were discovered after a traffic stop and subsequent arrest by a Barren County Deputy Sheriff.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress and was investigated by the Barren County Drug Task Force, the Barren County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

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