



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rite Aid Robber Convicted

CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA — A Clarksburg, West Virginia, resident was convicted on February 22, 2007, on firearms-related charges by a Federal Trial Jury in United States District Court in Clarksburg before Chief Judge Irene M. Keeley.

United States Attorney Sharon L. Potter announced that MATTHEW E. HAILE was convicted after a three-day trial on charges contained in a four-count Indictment returned against him in November 2006. Specifically, HAILE was convicted on the following:

Count One of the Indictment charging HAILE with unlawfully taking and obtaining personal property consisting of money from Rite Aid Pharmacy in Clarksburg, West Virginia, by using a Winchester Model 370 16 gauge single-shot short-barreled shotgun on October 17, 2006;

Count Two of the Indictment charging HAILE with using and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence on October 17, 2006;

Count Three of the Indictment charging HAILE with unlawfully possessing a sawed-off shotgun on October 17, 2006; and

Count Four of the Indictment charging HAILE with failing to register a firearm with the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

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HAILE, who is in custody, faces a maximum exposure of 20 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 on Count One of the Indictment; a mandatory 10 year term of imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 on Count Two of the Indictment; and a maximum exposure of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 each on Counts Three and Four of the Indictment.

The case was prosecuted under the Project Safe Homes Initiative by Assistant United States Attorney Zelda E. Wesley. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives.

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