

NEWS RELEASE

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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KENNETT MAN SENTENCED TO 51 MONTHS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

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A Kennett, Missouri man was sentenced today for unlawful possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

DERRICK J. HARRELL, age 41, was sentenced to 51 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. He appeared before United States District Judge Rodney W. Sippel.

On February 3, 2005, a Kennett, Missouri city police officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in which Harrell was a passenger. Harrell exited the car and attempted to get away from the officers. When officers stopped Harrell, a .25 caliber pistol was found on the

ground near where he had been walking. Harrell admitted that he was in possession of the pistol shortly before he was detained by the officers. Due to his previous felony convictions, Harrell is forbidden by law to possess firearms.

Hanaway praised the Dunklin County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Kennett, Missouri Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.