



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
New York Field Division

For Immediate Release

New York, N.Y

May 30, 2007

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MAN ARRESTED IN REVERSE GUN STING FOR SELLING GUNS WITHOUT A LICENSE

WILLIAM G. McMAHON, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF"), New York Field Division, MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, PRESTON FELTON, the Acting Superintendent of the New York State Police, and RAYMOND KELLY, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, announce the filing in Manhattan federal court of an Indictment against DAVID GONZALEZ for illegally trafficking firearms in New York City. GONZALEZ, age 23 from Andrews Avenue in the Bronx, was arrested on May 16, 2007. He was presented before a United States Magistrate Judge on May 17, 2007, and ordered detained.

In early 2007, the ATF Crime Gun Center developed intelligence which led the Joint Firearms Task Force to a confidential source who told law enforcement that he had sold several firearms that he had purchased in Pennsylvania to an individual he knew as "David" in the Bronx. The confidential informant told law enforcement that he had sold 8 firearms to "David."

In April, law enforcement developed information identifying GONZALEZ as the recipient of these firearms. On May 11th, agents covertly established contact with him and an undercover gun deal was set up when GONZALEZ indicated that he wanted to obtain an additional six handguns.

On May 16, 2007, shortly after 8 p.m, an undercover operative was provided with six prop handguns to sell to GONZALEZ. A short time later, GONZALEZ met with the operative in a parked vehicle on Sedgwick Avenue. GONZALEZ was shown the six guns consisting of three 9 mm's and three .380's. The two discussed previous gun sales and GONZALEZ indicated that he only had enough money for four of the guns. It was agreed that GONZALEZ would buy one 9mm and 3 .380's for a total price of \$580 and that he was interested in obtaining more guns in the near future.

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GONZALEZ exited the undercover vehicle and began to walk away with the prop firearms when he was approached and apprehended by Task Force officers.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the ATF Joint Firearms Task Force - comprised of ATF Agents, NYPD Detectives and NY State Police Investigators - which is tasked with investigating illegal interstate gun trafficking into New York.

Assistant United States Attorney TODD BLANCHE is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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