



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Grand Rapids, Michigan – June 8, 2007** – United States Attorney Charles R. Gross announced that Rufus Eugene Gunn III, age 24, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, was sentenced yesterday to 7 years in prison to be followed by a three-year period of supervised release for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g). The Honorable Robert Holmes Bell, Chief United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, presided over the sentencing hearing.

Gunn, a twice-convicted felon, was indicted by a federal grand jury after he fled from a Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety officer on August 16, 2006, while in the possession of a loaded Cobra .32 caliber semiautomatic pistol. He pled guilty to the charge on February 8, 2007.

Mr. Gross commended the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS) for their work in the case. Their joint investigation was undertaken as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative. This case was prosecuted on behalf of the United States of America by Assistant United States Attorney Elisa Castrolugo.

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