



July 24, 2007

## Federal Jury Convicts Cumberland Man of Firearms Charge

A federal jury has found **Richard Ribeiro**, of Cumberland, guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm for having three rifles in his house.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the verdict, which the jury returned yesterday in U.S. District Court, Providence, after a one-day trial before U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith. The jury deliberated for less than a half-hour.

During the trial, Assistant U.S. Attorney Zechariah Chafee presented evidence that, on May 1, 2006, Cumberland Police and agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) executed a state-authorized search warrant at Ribeiro's home on Macondary Street. They seized a 30-06 rifle in a crawl space. After interviewing Ribeiro at the Cumberland Police station, an ATF agent returned to Ribeiro's home, and seized two more long guns in another section of the crawl space: a 12 gauge shotgun and a .357 Magnum rifle. The agent also found .357 caliber ammunition in a dresser drawer.

Ribeiro, 59, has a prior felony narcotics conviction. The statutory maximum penalty for being a felon in possession of a firearm is ten years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Ribeiro is detained, pending sentencing, which is scheduled for November 16.

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