

NEWS RELEASE

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SOUTHEAST MISSOURI MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

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A Southeast Missouri man pled guilty today to charges of unlawful possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

BRIAN G. DAVIS, age 37, of Theodosia, Missouri, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. He appeared before United States District Judge E. Richard Webber.

On June 17, 2005, rangers from the National Park Service were contacted regarding a report of shots fired at a park area within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Shannon County, Missouri. The rangers responded and made contact with Brian G. Davis and other persons in the same area. The other witnesses reported that Mr. Davis had obtained a pistol from his truck and had fired a shot from that pistol into the Current River at Blue Springs Park. The pistol was recovered

from Mr. Davis' truck by the rangers. Mr. Davis later admitted to his state probation officer that he had obtained the weapon from his truck. Due to Davis's previous felony convictions, he is prohibited by law from possessing firearms. He now faces a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing has been set for October 22, 2007.

Hanaway praised the National Park Service and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.