



# ATF News

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## **Lincoln County, W.Va., Couples' Day of Terror Gets Armed Robber More than 13 Years in Federal Prison**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Special Agent in Charge Paul J. Vido of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and Charles T. Miller, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia announced today that Jonathan Hall, 25, of Barboursville, W.Va., was sentenced by U.S. District Court Chief Judge Joseph R. Goodwin on Aug. 29 to serve 162 months (13.5 years) in federal prison for using a firearm during the commission of an armed robbery of an elderly couple in their Sod, W.Va. home.

On July 4, 2006, Hall, armed with a 9mm pistol, broke into a residence in Sod, Lincoln County, W.V., and proceeded to burglarize the house. During the burglary, the elderly homeowners returned. Hall held them at gunpoint and at one point made them lay face down on the ground and threatened to kill them. Hall then led the couple at gunpoint through the house to find items of value, including jewelry and cash. Then, while Hall held the women at gunpoint, he instructed her husband to retrieve their truck from the garage and drive it to the side of the house immediately or he would kill his wife. Hall then stole the truck and attempted to make his get away.

Soon after, the couple called police and gave a description of Hall and the stolen vehicle. Hall was subsequently apprehended by the West Virginia State Police a few miles away from the robbery scene after he wrecked the stolen truck on US Rt. 119. When West Virginia State Police Troopers Jonathan Tabor and Kevin Harper arrived on the scene, they found Hall in possession of the gun, jewelry and cash that he had stolen.

“Hall’s acts were cowardly and could have seriously injured an innocent couple,” said Vido. “This successful prosecution was a result of the excellent police work of the two West Virginia State troopers and the collaborative efforts between the U.S. attorney’s office and ATF investigators. Thanks to our strong partnerships in West Virginia, another person who was a great danger to our community is behind bars for a substantial portion of his life.”

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Hall had previously pleaded guilty in federal court to the possession of a firearm after having been convicted of a felony offense, and he admitted that he used and brandished the firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence, which was the armed robbery. Hall had a previous felony conviction for aggravated assault and as such is prohibited from possessing a firearm by federal law.

Under federal law, Hall must serve at least 85 percent of his prison sentence and upon release will be under the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office for five years.

The violent crime investigation was prosecuted by the Charleston U.S. Attorney's Office. ATF's Charleston Field Office conducted the investigation in partnership with the West Virginia State Police as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

More information on ATF and its programs is at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov).

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