



Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GRETCHEN C.F. SHAPPERT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

CONTACT: SUELLEN PIERCE
704.338.3120
FAX 704.227.0264

FLETCHER MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL FIREARMS CONVICTION

Torres Will Serve 100 months in Federal Prison

ASHEVILLE, N.C. -- United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert of the Western District of North Carolina, announced that JONATHAN ANTHONY LEE TORRES, 26, of Fletcher, North Carolina, was sentenced today to 100 months in federal prison as a result of his having been convicted by a federal jury sitting in Asheville in January of 2007. Torres was sentenced in Asheville by The Honorable Lacy Thornburg, U.S. District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina. In addition to the 100-month term of imprisonment, Torres was also sentenced to a three-year term of supervised release, which will follow his release from prison.

According to a federal Bill of Indictment in which Torres was charged in October 2006, Torres, having been previously convicted of a felony in Buncombe County, did possess in and affecting interstate commerce, ammunition, that being Fiocchi .25 caliber full metal jacket bullets, in violation of the federal firearms laws, on September 5, 2006.

Torres has been in federal custody since October 2006. U.S. Attorney Shappert credits the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) with leading the investigation, and the North Carolina State Highway Patrol for its substantial assistance in the overall investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Don Gast of the U.S. Attorney's Criminal Division in Asheville handled the case for the government. Torres has entered his Notice of Appeal of the conviction and is represented by John Hunter of Asheville.

###