



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

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**FEDERAL DEFENDANT PROHIBITED FROM POSSESSING
FIREARMS SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS IN FEDERAL COURT**

– User of cocaine possessed five firearms

PADUCAH, KY - Randall H. Burchard, age 61, of 609 State Route 408 West, Hickory, Kentucky, in Graves County, was sentenced to 2 years and 3 months imprisonment in United States District Court, Paducah, Kentucky, for the knowing possession of firearms while being addicted to or being an unlawful user of cocaine, a controlled substance, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today. Hon. Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced Burchard to 2 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system. In addition, a fine of \$6,000 was imposed.

U.S. Attorney Huber thanked the Paducah Police Department and the Mayfield Police Department for their work in “taking a cocaine user with firearms off of the street. State, local and federal cooperation can reduce gun violence.”

Burchard had been found guilty by a jury of knowingly possessing firearms on October 13, 2005, in McCracken County, Kentucky, and on October 28, 2005, and November 13, 2005, in Graves County, Kentucky. During the periods of time that Burchard knowingly possessed the firearms, there was evidence that Burchard was unlawfully using cocaine. Drug paraphernalia

had been found in the motor vehicle, residence, or on the person of Burchard, in addition to evidence of the use of cocaine on various occasions. On October 13, 2005, a Ruger, .30 caliber revolver was found in his vehicle. On October 28, 2005, three long guns were found on two farms associated with Burchard. On November 13, 2005, a .22 caliber revolver with an obliterated serial number was found in his vehicle.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Sparks, and it was investigated by the Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), in cooperation with the Paducah Police Department and the Mayfield Police Department.

This was a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

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