



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Tampa Field Division

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POLICE PURSUIT LEADS TO 188 MONTH PRISON SENTENCE FOR GADSDEN COUNTY ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL

Derrick L. Williams Sentenced for Possession of A Firearm By A Convicted Felon

TALLAHASSEE, FL – The sentencing of Derrick L. Williams to 188 months incarceration for being a career criminal in possession of a firearm was announced by Special Agent in Charge Virginia O'Brien of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Tampa Field Division, along with U.S. Attorney Greg Miller of the Northern District of Florida, and Gadsden County Sheriff Morris A. Young. This sentencing is a culmination of a joint investigation conducted by ATF and the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office.

This investigation was initiated after Gadsden County Sheriff's deputies attempted to stop a car that was being driven by a known wanted person. The fugitive fled deputies and the car pursuit resulted in one of the deputies' vehicles being rammed prior to stopping the fleeing car. Williams was a passenger in the fleeing car and once the car was stopped, he ran from the car carrying a firearm in his hand. Deputies chased Williams on foot and eventually arrested him and recovered the firearm that he had been carrying.

The GCSO contacted the ATF Tallahassee Field Office and informed them of Williams' arrest and requested that ATF assist with a federal prosecution. Because of Williams' lengthy violent criminal past, ATF referred the case to the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of Florida and on April 3, 2007, Williams was indicted in federal court for being a career criminal in possession of a firearm.

On June 6, 2007, Williams pleaded guilty to both charges cited in the federal indictment and on Oct. 15, 2007, he was sentenced to 188 months in federal prison.

ATF is the federal law enforcement agency whose jurisdiction includes violent crimes involving firearms. More information on ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.

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