

**U.S. Department of Justice**

*Gregory R. Miller*

*United States Attorney*

*Northern District of Florida*

*111 N. Adams Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*

*Tallahassee, FL 32301*

*Telephone (850) 942-8430*

*Fax (850) 942-8429 21 East Garden Street, Suite 400*

*Pensacola, FL 32502*

*Telephone (850) 444-4000*

*Fax (850) 434-9050 Commerce Building*

*300 University Avenue, Suite 310*

*Gainesville, FL 32601*

*Telephone (352) 378-0996*

*Fax (352) 371-1912*

Please reply to: Pensacola

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Managing Asst. U.S. Attorney Dixie A. Morrow (850) 444-4000**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**SEIZURE OF STOLEN FIREARM AND SILENCER NETS TEN YEAR  
SENTENCE IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR DEFENDANT WANTED IN  
CONNECTION WITH BURGLARIES AND ATTEMPTED MURDER  
CHARGE IN ARIZONA**

**Pensacola, Florida** - United States Attorney Gregory R. Miller, Northern District of Florida, announced that **Herbert Michael Ryan, 22**, of Phoenix, Arizona, was sentenced on November 20 by Senior United States District Judge Roger Vinson to ten years imprisonment for possession of a stolen firearm, possession of a firearm by a convicted

felon, and possession of an unregistered firearm or silencer. Ryan was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in June, and entered pleas of guilty on August 3.

Ryan will now be transported in custody to Arizona to face State charges stemming from his alleged participation in a string of burglaries during which a firearm and silencer were stolen and ultimately used to shoot a burglary victim four times. The victim survived, but suffered permanent nerve damage to her hands.

According to a statement Ryan made to investigators, he and an accomplice committed the burglaries, and after the homeowner was shot, Ryan fled Arizona to Pensacola where he was located and captured by Special Agent Craig Saier of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). The firearm used to shoot the homeowner in Arizona was seized by Special Agent Saier at the time of Ryan's arrest in Pensacola.

This case was investigated by the Pensacola ATF office and the Maricopa County (Arizona) Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Edwin F. Knight. United States Attorney Miller had high praise for the investigators involved in the case: "The U.S. Department of Justice has a nationwide commitment to reducing gun crime in America – 'Project Safe Neighborhoods.' The cooperative efforts of our local ATF and the Maricopa County, Arizona Sheriff's Office are a fine example of how networking State and Federal investigators can achieve a reduction in gun violence."