



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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NELSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY MAN WITH LONG CRIMINAL HISTORY CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY CONVICTED FELON

LOUISVILLE, KY - **Steve Keith Halsey**, age 49, who resided on Patton Road in Boston, Kentucky, was charged with possession of a firearm and ammunition while being a convicted felon, 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. The firearm was a Harrington and Richardson .410 gauge shotgun, Model 198.

On July 17, 2007, Kentucky State Police Troopers executed arrest warrants for Halsey at his residence in Boston, Kentucky. Halsey had initially fled his residence, but he was apprehended after a short chase. Halsey then asked a trooper to turn off the crockpot in his residence, and the trooper went inside to turn it off. When leaving Halsey's residence, the trooper noticed the shotgun next to the entry door.

Halsey, who is a convicted felon cannot lawfully possess a firearm. Halsey's previous felony convictions include Rape 1st Degree and Perjury (Fayette County Circuit Court), Assault 2nd Degree, Arson 2nd Degree, Possession of a Forged Instrument 2nd Degree (Morgan County Circuit Court), and Escape 2nd Degree (Rowan County Circuit Court).

If convicted, Halsey faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years, maximum potential penalties of life imprisonment, \$250,000 and up to 5 years supervised release.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amy M. Sullivan. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Kentucky State Police, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

Halsey is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on December 20, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Louisville, Kentucky.

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An Indictment is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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