



# Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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## GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENT AGAINST HOPKINSVILLE MAN FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM

*- Castile has 4 prior felony convictions*

BOWLING GREEN, KY - A federal grand jury in Bowling Green returned an indictment against **James M. Castile**, age 34, of Hopkinsville, KY, for being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm, 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.

According to an affidavit filed by ATF, a Kentucky State Trooper arrested Castile on May 17, 2007. During the course of the arrest, the trooper recovered a loaded Llama, Model Max 1, .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol from Castile. According to the affidavit, ATF confirmed that Castile, at the time of his arrest, was on probation as a result of three felony convictions in Kentucky and one from Tennessee. Castile's prior felony convictions include two for manufacturing methamphetamine, one for criminal mischief 1st degree, and one for possession of drug paraphernalia.

This is 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.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael A. Bennett. The Bowling Green) 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.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Castile is scheduled for arraignment before United States Magistrate Judge E. Robert Goebel, United States District Court, on January 23, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the United States Courthouse, Bowling Green, 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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