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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Detroit, Michigan

**FORMER COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SENTENCED TO
63 MONTHS FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF
MACHINE GUNS AND SILENCERS**

The former Ogemaw County chief assistant prosecuting attorney was sentenced today after having been convicted of unlawful possession machine guns and silencers by a federal court jury in August, 2007, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Thomas E. Brandon, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Gary J. Theunick, 58 was sentenced by United States Judge Robert H. Cleland to 63 months in prison.

Evidence presented during the three week trial showed that the former official abused his official position to obtain 7 machine guns and 9 silencers, which are heavily restricted under federal law, for his own personal use rather than for any law enforcement purpose.

U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "When prosecutors and police officers flout the law just to be able to get a hold of particularly dangerous weapons for their personal recreation, this is an abuse of power that violates the public's trust in the fair application of the law."

Special Agent in Charge Brandon said, "The jury verdict and subsequent sentence against this defendant shows that no one is above the law".

Mr. Murphy commended the excellent investigative work of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Michigan State Police, as well as the federal prosecution team from the Bay City and Detroit U.S. Attorney's Offices, Assistant U.S. Attorneys Janet Parker and Walter Kozar.

