

NEWS RELEASE

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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CAPE GIRARDEAU MAN SENTENCED TO 110 MONTHS ON FEDERAL FIREARMS CHARGES

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A Cape Girardeau, Missouri man was sentenced today for unlawful possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

RYAN BLUNT, age 33, was sentenced to 110 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. He appeared before United States District Judge Henry E. Autrey.

On August 1, 2007, law enforcement officers were called to a residence on North Spanish Street in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The officers made contact with a woman who rented that residence and obtained her consent to search the home. During that search, the officers located and seized a Smith & Wesson, .38 caliber revolver loaded with six rounds of ammunition along with 88 additional rounds of ammunition of the same caliber. The officers spoke with the

woman who rented the residence about the revolver. The woman stated that Ryan Blunt lived in the same residence and that the revolver belonged to Mr. Blunt.

Due to Blunt's previous felony convictions, he is prohibited from possessing firearms.

Hanaway praised the Cape Girardeau, Missouri Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.