

NEWS RELEASE

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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SOUTHEAST MISSOURI MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION

May 13, 2008

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

MARTY L. LUKE, age 45, of Oxley, Missouri, was sentenced to 180 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. He appeared before United States District Judge Catherine D. Perry.

On August 20, 2007, Luke was the driver of a vehicle stopped by a Poplar Bluff police officer. Luke was placed under arrest at the time of the stop. The officer searched Luke and found eight (8) rounds of Winchester, .38 caliber ammunition in one of Luke's pockets. The officer also searched Luke's vehicle and found a loaded Rossi, .38 caliber revolver in the driver's

door storage compartment, and a box of Winchester, .40 caliber ammunition in the seat of the truck. Due to Luke's previous felony convictions, he is prohibited from possessing firearms and ammunition.

Hanaway praised the Poplar Bluff Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.