

NEWS RELEASE

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CAPE GIRARDEAU MAN SENTENCED TO 85 MONTHS ON FEDERAL GUN CHARGES

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A Cape Girardeau, Missouri man was sentenced today on federal gun charges, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

ARTHUR L. IVY, age 26, was sentenced to 85 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm and one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. He appeared before United States District Judge Henry E. Autrey.

On October 8, 2007, officers for the Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force were conducting an investigation into the distribution of controlled substances in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. They received information that one of two men on Ellis Street had just sold a quantity

of cocaine base to a confidential informant. The officers contacted a uniformed police officer to drive to that location and stop the two men for identification.

When the uniformed officer stopped his patrol car near the two men, they both began running. The first man was captured after a short chase. The second man was found in a bedroom closet of a house on South Ellis Street. He was identified as Arthur L. Ivy. A nearby citizen reported that a black male had run onto the porch of that home after throwing down a handgun and a plastic baggie in the back yard of the home. The officers searched the back yard of the house on South Ellis Street and found a plastic baggie containing 23 smaller baggies, each holding a quantity of cocaine base. The officers also found a Taurus, 9mm pistol, in the back yard of the same house. Both the cocaine base baggies and the pistol were subjected to DNA analysis by the Missouri State Highway Patrol Laboratory. A buccal swab was also obtained from Mr. Ivy by a state search warrant for comparison. The DNA tests revealed that the DNA on the pistol and cocaine base baggies was consistent with the DNA of Arthur L. Ivy.

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

Hanaway praised the Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force, the Cape Girardeau Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration 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.