



**U.S. Department of Justice**

United States Attorney  
District of Connecticut  
Connecticut Financial Center  
157 Church Street  
P.O. Box 1824  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/ct](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ct)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 2, 2005**

CONTACT:  
Tom Carson  
Public Information Office  
(203) 821-3722  
(203) 996-1393 (cell)

**Project Safe Neighborhoods:**  
**HARTFORD MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR**  
**ILLEGALLY SELLING FIREARMS**

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that CHAZ CAMPBELL, age 22, of 269 Lyme Street, Hartford, Connecticut, was sentenced yesterday, March 1, by United States District Judge Alvin W. Thompson in Hartford to 34 months of imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release, for his illegal sale of firearms.

On December 9, 2004, CAMPBELL pleaded guilty to one count of an Indictment that charged him with engaging in the business of dealing firearms, in violation of federal law. At that time, he acknowledged that on two occasions in the fall of 2003, he sold two firearms, a .38 Special revolver and a 12 gauge shotgun, to an individual who, unbeknownst to CAMPBELL, was cooperating with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). CAMPBELL had been identified by an informant as someone who was selling guns and drugs in the greater Hartford area.

CAMPBELL's sentence was enhanced because the Court found, and he admitted, that he had reason to believe that the firearm would be used in connection with another

felony offense. Specifically, in recorded conversations between CAMPBELL and the cooperating witness, the cooperator indicated that he needed the firearms to conduct a robbery of a courier service in Vermont. It was also revealed in court that there were further recorded conversations between CAMPBELL and the cooperating witness where they discussed the possibility of the cooperator purchasing a machine gun. That transaction was never consummated.

“This individual illegally sold firearms on the streets of Hartford, with knowledge that those firearms were going to individuals who would then use them in violent crime,” U.S. Attorney O’Connor stated. “It is this type of investigation and prosecution that is central to our ongoing efforts with federal, state and local law enforcement to combat gun violence and remove illegal weapons from the community.”

The case was investigated by Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and officers of the Hartford Police Department and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas V. Daily.

The Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is aimed at reducing gun violence, deterring illegal possession of guns, and improving the safety of residents in Hartford and all of Connecticut’s cities. Participants in the initiative include community members and organizations as well as federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. More information on the nationwide Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative can be found at [www.psn.gov](http://www.psn.gov) <<http://www.psn.gov>>.

###