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**LOTHIAN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A  
FIREARM AFTER HIS ARREST FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

GREENBELT, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today Jason Brooks, age 27, of Lothian, Maryland pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a firearm at the time of a domestic assault and after having been convicted of a felony gun conviction stemming from a prior domestic restraining order.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein said, "Convicted felons who possess guns should expect to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

According to the statement of facts presented at the plea, on July 14, 2005, Prince George's County police officers responded to a domestic dispute on Elder Oaks Blvd, Bowie, Maryland. Upon their arrival, Brooks' wife advised that she had been assaulted by her husband. The police located Brooks sitting in the driver's seat of his vehicle in front of his wife's apartment. Brooks was arrested and a search of Brooks' vehicle recovered a loaded Glock-27 .40 caliber handgun.

Brooks' prior felony also involved illegal possession of a gun. Specifically, on May 29, 2001, he was convicted of possessing a firearm while subject to a court order restraining him from harassing, stalking, and threatening his first wife. For that first conviction, Brooks was sentenced to 15 months incarceration and 3 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte. At the time of his sentencing in the 2000 case, Brooks, through his counsel, falsely told the court that two other guns he owned had been stolen, including the Glock Model 27 .40 caliber pistol found in his car during the search on July 14, 2005. Brooks was released from prison in 2002 and was on supervised release at the time of his arrest on July 14, 2005.

During his guilty plea, Brooks admitted that he lied to the Court when sentenced during his original gun case and that he solicited a witness to lie for him regarding his current gun case as well.

Even though the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) found the .40 caliber pistol, the Taurus 9 mm was still missing. A search warrant was executed at Brooks home in Lothian on September 22, 2005. At that time, agents found concealed in a vehicle

Brooks owned two assault rifles and ammunition; twenty-one Remington 12 gauge shotgun shells; ten rounds of .40 caliber S&W handgun ammunition; and body armor. The Taurus 9 mm is still missing.

Brooks faces a maximum sentence of ten years in prison and a \$250,000 fine as to both counts of conviction. He also faces an additional sentence for the violation of supervised release in his previous case. Judge Messitte has scheduled sentencing for May 23, 2006. Brooks has been detained since his federal arrest.

Mr. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Prince George's County Police Department. Mr. Rosenstein also thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Sandra Wilkinson, who is prosecuting the case.