



## U.S. Department of Justice

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### **ROCKFORD MAN SENTENCED TO 66 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSING FIREARMS AS A CONVICTED FELON**

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ANDREW L. TRAVER, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; RICHARD MEYERS, Winnebago County Sheriff; and CHESTER EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

Today, United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard sentenced **JOSEPH J. HILL**, age 26, formerly of Rockford, Illinois, to 66 months in federal prison, without parole, for possessing firearms as a convicted felon. The court also ordered Hill to pay a \$200 fine and further sentenced Hill to 3 years of supervised release following his release from prison.

In pleading guilty on April 9, 2007, Hill admitted that on September 11, 2006, he was at the residence of his co-defendant, Larry Lumsden, in Rockford where Hill and Lumsden met with a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives confidential informant (hereinafter "CI"). Hill further admitted that during that meeting, Lumsden sold the CI a .22 caliber rifle, a shotgun and 50 rounds of shotgun ammunition for \$500. After the CI paid Lumsden, Hill and Lumsden carried the guns and ammunition to the CI's vehicle. Hill also admitted that at the time Hill possessed the shotgun, he was aware that it had been stolen from a residence in Durand, Illinois on September 2, 2006. As part of the plea agreement, Hill also admitted that on September 7, 2006 he possessed two 12 gauge shotguns, a 20 gauge shotgun and 75 rounds of shotgun ammunition.

Hill's co-defendant, Larry Lumsden, age 24, also pleaded guilty and was sentenced on July 6, 2007 to 71 months in federal prison, without parole, for possessing firearms as a convicted felon. The court also ordered Lumsden to pay a \$200 fine and further sentenced Lumsden to 3 years of supervised release following his release from prison.

The case was investigated by the Rockford office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Rockford Police Department with the assistance of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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