



*U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of Mississippi*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 28, 2011**

**George County Man Sentenced on Arson Charges**

Gulfport, Miss - Joshua Daniel Easter, 32, of George County, Miss., and Russellville, Ark., was sentenced in U.S. District Court today to serve 84 months in prison for arson of a building with risk of injury, U.S. Attorney John Dowdy announced. He pled guilty to the charge on June 28, 2011.

Easter admitted setting a December 9, 2010, fire to one side of a public housing duplex funded by the federal government. The other side of the duplex was occupied by a family, but no one was injured. Easter has been in federal custody since his arrest on May 10, 2011.

The case was investigated by the Mississippi State Fire Marshal and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Annette Williams.

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