



Department of Justice

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DAYTON MAN RECEIVES 57-MONTH SENTENCE FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

DAYTON – Dontrell Thomas, 25, Dayton, was sentenced in United States District Court here today to 57 months imprisonment for illegally possessing a firearm.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Wayne Dixie, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Dayton Police Chief Rick Biehl, and Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck announced the sentence handed down yesterday by United States District Judge Timothy S. Black.

Thomas pleaded guilty in August 2010 to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. According to court documents, Thomas, a convicted felon, illegally possessed a firearm on May 17, 2010. On that date, Dayton Police attempted to stop Thomas in the area of Basswood Avenue in Dayton.

Thomas ran from the officers and ultimately tried to hide in a nearby building. While inside the building, Defendant threw a pistol loaded with seven rounds of ammunition out a window. Officers recovered the firearm and arrested Thomas. Thomas was previously convicted of a felony on October 10, 2003, in Montgomery County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas of Attempt to Commit Felonious Assault (Serious Harm).

Federal firearms laws prohibit convicted felons from possessing firearms, ammunition, or body armor. This case was investigated under Project Safe Neighborhoods, a partnership between federal, local and state law enforcement and prosecutors to target communities with persistent high levels of drug and gun crime and vigorously prosecute them in federal court. For more information on Project Safe Neighborhoods, visit www.psn.gov.

Stewart commended the cooperative investigation of this case by ATF agents and DPD officers, and the cooperation of County Prosecutor Heck. He also commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Hunt, who prosecuted the case.

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