



Department of Justice

United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil
Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 16, 2011
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/WIW

CONTACT: RITA M. RUMBELOW
PHONE: (608) 264-5158
TTY: (608) 264-5006

**MADISON MAN SENTENCED
TO 22 YEARS FOR GUN CRIMES**

*Christopher Singleman Participated in
Armed Robberies of Madison-Area Businesses*

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Christopher Singleman, 28, Madison, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 22 years in prison, without the possibility of parole, for unlawfully possessing a firearm as a convicted felon and for using a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. Singleman pleaded guilty to these charges on December 28, 2010.

Singleman, co-defendant Carl Potts and others planned and committed the following armed robberies of area businesses:

- (1) April 24, 2010, AmericInn on Grand Canyon Drive in Madison;
- (2) April 26, 2010, Country Inn and Suites on Nesbitt Road in Fitchburg, Wis.;
- (3) April 29, 2010, Steve's Liquor on Mineral Point Road in Madison;
- (4) May 1, 2010, the AmericInn on Grand Canyon Drive in Madison;
- (5) May 3, 2010, Midwest Jewelers on Monona Drive in Monona, Wis.;
- (6) May 6, 2010, the Road Star Inn on Seybold Road in Madison; and
- (7) May 10, 2010, Steve's Liquor on Mineral Point Road in Madison.

This crime spree culminated in an armed home invasion on May 11, 2010, on Blaine Drive in Madison, where Singleman stole a handgun. Singleman is an armed career criminal because he has three or more prior violent felony convictions, which required Judge Crabb to impose a mandatory minimum 15-year sentence on the felon in possession count. Judge Crabb was also required to impose a consecutive seven-year sentence for using a gun in a crime of violence.

Co-defendant Carl Potts pleaded guilty to the May 10, 2010, Steve's Liquor robbery and is scheduled for sentencing on March 29, 2011. Bulent Dzelil has been

charged in a separate indictment for his involvement in the May 3, 2010, Midwest Jewelers robbery. His trial is scheduled for June 6, 2011.

The charges against Singleman were the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison Police Department, Fitchburg Police Department, Monona Police Department, Dane County Sheriff's Department, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

#