



# PRESS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA*

**WILLIAM J. IHLENFELD, II  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

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**June 5, 2012  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***Triadelphia Resident Indicted by Federal Grand Jury  
on Firearms Charge***

**WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA — A Federal Grand Jury sitting in Wheeling, West Virginia, on June 5, 2012, returned a one-count Indictment against RANDAL A. HOWARD.**

**United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, announced that:**

**RANDAL A. HOWARD, age 41, of Triadelphia, West Virginia, was named in a one-count Indictment charging him with “Felon in Possession of a Firearm.” The indictment alleges that HOWARD possessed a firearm on February 28, 2012, despite having a prior felony conviction from the Circuit Court of Ohio County, West Virginia, for Grand Larceny.**

**“We want encourage state and local law enforcement agencies to continue referring firearms cases to our office so that we may consider them for federal prosecution,” said Ihlenfeld.**

**If convicted, HOWARD faces a maximum exposure of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.**

**This case will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert H. McWilliams, Jr. and was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.**

**It should be noted that the charges contained in the above-referenced Indictment are merely accusations and not evidence of guilt, and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.**

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