



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED FELON CONVICTED OF ARMED CAR JACKING

*- Victim threatened with her life
- Kentucky State Trooper fired on during high speed chase*

LOUISVILLE, KY - Corey L. Guthrie, age 21, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, was found guilty on June 6, 2007, by a federal jury in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, of armed car jacking, discharging a firearm during a crime of violence, possession of an unregistered firearm, and being a felon in possession of a firearm, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the Louisville Police Department and the Kentucky State Police for their quick action and stated that "federal cooperation with local law enforcement is the key to keeping violent criminals off of our streets and our communities safe."

Guthrie's previous felony convictions include convictions for Second Degree Burglary, Second Degree Assault, First Degree Fleeing or Evading Police, First Degree Criminal Mischief, Receiving Stolen Property (firearm), First Degree Wanton Endangerment, and Intimidating a Witness in case number 03CR0220 in Jefferson Circuit Court, Louisville, Kentucky, on January 14, 2004. The January 14, 2004, conviction involved offenses for which Guthrie could be imprisoned for more than a year, that is, a felony offense.

The jury's verdict of guilty was returned following a two and one-half day trial before Jennifer B. Coffman, Judge, United States District Court.

During the trial, the jury heard testimony that two men had entered the victim's Louisville apartment on the night of May 3, 2005. When the two men entered the apartment, an accomplice of Guthrie's, Ronald E. Kemp, age 25, of Louisville, who previously pleaded guilty in the case, was carrying a Harrington & Richardson, model 48, 16 gauge, twenty inch "sawed-off" shotgun. Guthrie entered the apartment carrying a Lorcin, model L22, .22 caliber, semiautomatic pistol.

When Guthrie and Kemp did not find any money in the apartment, they forced the victim to leave the apartment and drive them around in her car while they called her boyfriend and demanded that he bring them money. During the course of events, the two told the boyfriend over the phone that if he did not bring them money, that the victim would be killed. After being notified of the home invasion and kidnapping of the victim, officers of the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) located the victim's car with both Guthrie, Kemp, and the victim still in it. Officers initiated a traffic stop but Kemp ordered the victim not to stop. A car chase ensued. The pursuit lasted some thirty minutes and reached speeds of 100 miles per hour. At one point during the chase, a Kentucky State Police (KSP) trooper joined in and pulled his cruiser in front of the victim's car in an attempt to slow it down. When the trooper pulled into position, Kemp fired the "sawed-off" shotgun into the rear of the KSP cruiser.

The pursuit ended when the victim's car entered a residential area. LMPD officers were able to safely stop the victim's car as it slowed down to make a turn. LMPD officers apprehended Guthrie and Kemp. The victim was not injured.

Guthrie faces a combined minimum term of 25 years' imprisonment, and maximum potential penalties of life imprisonment, a \$1,000,000.00 fine, and supervised release for a period of at least five years. Kemp faces a minimum of 10 years' imprisonment, and maximum

potential penalties of life imprisonment, a \$1,000,000.00 fine, and supervised release for a period of at least five years.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael A. Bennett. The Louisville Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Louisville Metro Police Department, and the Kentucky State Police, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

KEMP is scheduled to be sentenced on July 12, 2007. at 10:30 a.m. and Guthrie is scheduled to be sentenced on September 17, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. in United States District Court in Louisville, Kentucky by Judge Jennifer B. Coffman

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