



# ATF News

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## ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING TRIGGERS ARREST BY LONDON ATF

### *Multi-Convicted Felon Mistakes Friend for Squirrel*

LONDON, Ky. — On Oct. 14, the Knox County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call reporting that a man had been shot in Bailey Hollow located in Knox County, Ky. When Knox County Sheriff's Office Deputy Roy Gambrel arrived at the scene, he found Jimmy Ray McDonald and Michael Myrick attempting to provide first aid to Brian Myrick, who had been wounded by a single gunshot. Gambrel provided first aid to Myrick until emergency medical personnel arrived. Myrick was transported to a near by hospital, but later died.

Special Agent in Charge Paul J. Vido of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced that Jimmy Ray McDonald, age 47, was arrested on Oct. 25, at his home in Gray, Ky., on the federal charge of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. McDonald is schedule for his initial appearance in the U.S. District Court in London at 3:00 p.m., today.

Investigators from the Kentucky State Police (KSP) and the ATF London Field Office began a joint investigation into this shooting incident. This investigation determined that McDonald and Myrick went hunting together and that McDonald apparently had accidentally shot Myrick with a Winchester, .22 caliber rifle after mistaking him for a squirrel.

Vido said, "It is a tragedy that an innocent man lost his life because of an individual who should not have had a firearm in the first place."

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Samuel Dotson. The case was investigated by the ATF London Field Office in partnership with the Kentucky State Police and Knox County Sheriff's Office.

ATF is the federal law enforcement agency with the unique responsibility of protecting the public and reducing violent crime. ATF has the jurisdiction for investigating violations of federal laws and regulations relating to alcohol and tobacco diversion, firearms, explosives and arson. More information on ATF and its programs is at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov).

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