

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway  
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### **FESTUS MAN SENTENCED TO 57 MONTHS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

November 26, 2007

A Festus, Missouri man was sentenced today on charges of unlawful possession of firearms, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

**RUSSELL EUGENE LEE**, age 37, was sentenced to 57 months on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of firearms. He appeared before United States District Judge Jean C. Hamilton.

On October 28, 2006, a Carter County resident contacted the Carter County Sheriff's office and reported the theft of several firearms from his house near Ellsinore, Missouri. Lee was a suspect in the theft. Officers made contact with Lee in Festus, Missouri the next day. Lee admitted that he had taken the firearms. Lee informed the officers where they could recover the firearms. Due to Lee's previous felony conviction, he is prohibited from possessing firearms.

Hanaway praised the Carter County Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.