

Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008
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HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY MULTI-CONVICTED FELON PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF FIREARM

- Castile has 4 prior felony convictions, including 2 drug convictions

BOWLING GREEN, KY - **James M. Castile**, age 34, of 611 Millbrooke Road, Hopkinsville, KY, pled guilty to being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for 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.

According to an affidavit previously filed in the case, a Kentucky State Trooper arrested Castile on May 17, 2007. During the course of the arrest, the trooper recovered a loaded Llama, Model Max 1, .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol from Castile. According to the affidavit, ATF confirmed that Castile, at the time of his arrest, had three felony convictions in Kentucky and one in Tennessee. Castile's prior felony convictions include two for manufacturing methamphetamine, one for criminal mischief 1st degree, and one for possession of drug paraphernalia.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

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

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Castile is scheduled to be sentenced in Bowling Green, Kentucky before United States District Court Judge Thomas B. Russell on June 30, 2008, at 12:00 p.m., at the United States Courthouse, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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