



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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BOWLING GREEN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATION

- Multi-convicted felony drug trafficker admits possessing loaded firearm

BOWLING GREEN, KY - **Carlos Radel Conn**, age 37, of 4953 Westgate Drive, Bowling Green, Kentucky, in Warren County, plead guilty on June 25, 2008, to charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 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.

Conn admitted that on March 9, 2007, he was in possession of a loaded Ruger 9 mm pistol. Law enforcement officers discovered the loaded Ruger under Conn's bed and ammunition in his closet as they were executing a state search warrant at Conn's residence. Conn had been previously convicted under 3 separate state court indictments of felony trafficking in a controlled substance and being a persistent felony offender.

The maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 6 years.

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 was is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert B. Bonar. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Bowling Green Police Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

The plea was entered before E. Robert Goebel, Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Conn is scheduled to be sentenced before the Honorable Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, on September 26, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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