

NEWS RELEASE

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AUDRAIN COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL FIREARMS CHARGES

St. Louis, MO: Corey Owens pled guilty to possession of stolen firearms, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

Owens, 30, of Mexico, MO, pled guilty Tuesday afternoon before Judge Donald Stohr in United States District Court in St. Louis. Owens faces a maximum term of 10 years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing has been set for December 3, 2008.

Owens used the firearms that are the basis of the federal prosecution in a gunfight with police on August 29, 2007 in Mexico. Owens was convicted of 1st degree assault in state court earlier this year.

“This prosecution is proof that stolen firearms present a danger to society when, as they typically do, they make their way into the wrong hands,” said Hanaway.

Hanaway praised the work of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives (ATF), who worked the case in cooperation with Audrain County prosecutor Jason Lamb and the Mexico Department of Public Safety; and Assistant United States Attorney Tom Albus, who is handling the case for the U.S. Attorney’s Office.