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For Immediate Release

## **UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REPORTS WEEKLY RESULTS OF ST. LOUIS REGIONAL CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE**

St. Louis, Missouri: The following represents the prosecution activities under the St. Louis Regional Ceasefire Initiative, a component of the Bush Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway and St. Louis Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce announced today.

These cases are the result of the collaborative efforts of federal and local law enforcement including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office, the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

This week's results of Project Safe Neighborhood/Ceasefire are as follows:

### **UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

PRESTON MCMORRIS, 28, of the 2500 block of Hebert, St. Louis, was sentenced to 101 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. In December 12, 2003, St. Louis Metropolitan police officers were pursuing McMorris for selling drugs. After 20 minutes of pursuit, McMorris stopped his car, got out, retrieved a pistol and fired at the officers, hitting a citizen's car. No one was injured.

CARMAINE REID, 20, of the 5200 block of Hamilton, St. Louis, 63136, was sentenced to 95 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

SINTRIELE LAWRENCE, 23, of the 4500 block of Alice, St. Louis, 63120, was sentenced to 24

months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

SEDRICK DERELL COVINGTON, 28, of the 4000 block of Nebraska, St. Louis, was sentenced to 18 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. On December 24, 2004, a St. Louis Metropolitan Police Officer working as a security guard at a night club in the Laclede's Landing neighborhood found a 9mm Luger-type semiautomatic pistol on Covington.

RANDY BRYANT, 21, of the 5100 block of Ridge, St. Louis, 63112, was sentenced to 41 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. In November 2004, St. Louis city police officers were monitoring a vehicle that had been reported stolen in Kirkwood. Bryant was riding as a passenger in the vehicle. As officers approached the vehicle in a parking lot to speak with the driver, the driver lurched forward in an attempt to escape, hit two police cars, and ultimately crashed his car into a curb and fence surrounding the parking lot. As police approached the car after it had crashed, Bryant took out a semiautomatic pistol and pointed at the police officer approaching him. The officer, fearing for his life, shot at Bryant and struck the driver of the vehicle in the leg. That same officer was able to arrest Bryant without any shots being fired from Bryant's firearm. The driver was not seriously injured.

LAWRENCE ASHLEY JONES, 27, Belleville, Illinois was sentenced to 30 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

MICHAEL W. SMITH, 48, of the 1400 block of Hamilton, St. Louis 63112, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Smith now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for January 30, 2006.

VAN LAMONT LOVE, JR., 20, 2600 block of Shenandoah, St. Louis, 63104, pled guilty to one felony count of being an possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Love now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for February 16, 2006.

CHARLES BURNETT, 41, of the 4700 block of Michigan, St. Louis, 63111, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Burnett now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for February 9, 2006.