



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Philadelphia Field Division

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ATF ARRESTS 4 IN TANNERSVILLE GUN STORE ROBBERY

PHILADELPHIA -- Mark W. Potter, Special Agent in Charge of the Philadelphia Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and Thomas A. Marino, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, announced today the indictment and arrests of three men on the charges of conspiracy, armed robbery of a federal firearms licensee, use or brandishing of a firearm in a federal crime of violence and transfer of known stolen firearms. A fourth man was arrested on the charge of providing false statements to ATF agents during the course of the investigation.

Following an indictment by a federal grand jury on February 21 in Scranton, Pa., members of the ATF Firearms Trafficking Task Force arrested Leron McGee, 21 on February 28 in the unit block of Brooksong Way, East Stroudsburg, Pa., Ricky Dennis, 21, on February 28 in the hundred block of West Fourth Street, East Stroudsburg, Pa., and Adrian Campbell, 18, on February 28 in the unit block of Lackawanna Avenue, East Stroudsburg, Pa. Luis Cardenas-Perdomo, 20, was arrested by ATF and the New York City Police Department on March 3 in the 100 block of Delancy Street, New York City, N.Y. All were arrested without incident and all are residents of East Stroudsburg, Pa.

“ATF’s arrests in this investigation exhibit a commitment to ridding the streets of illegal gun traffickers,” said Potter. “Gun robberies occurring in Monroe County not only affect northeast Pennsylvania, but these guns show up on the streets of Philadelphia and New York. ATF is utilizing all its resources across the region to recover all the crime guns.”

The indictment alleges that on May 13, 2005, one of the defendants placed a cellular telephone call to A & A Sporting Goods, Route 611 and Stadden Road, Tannersville, Pa., to ascertain if the store was open for business. A & A Sporting Goods is a federally licensed gun shop. Dennis and Cardenas-Perdomo entered the sporting goods store while McGee remained outside as a lookout. Once in the store, Dennis and Cardenas-Perdomo ordered the owner, Andrew Zafiropolous, into the back of the store. After deactivating the alarm and locking the doors, Dennis and Cardenas-Perdomo severely beat Mr. Zafiropolous with the stock of their AK-47 type rifle. After the beating, Dennis and Cardenas-Perdomo stole approximately 62 firearms. The guns were divided up amongst the three defendants and later sold to others in Pennsylvania and New York City.

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The indictment also alleges that Adrian Campbell willfully made false statements to ATF special agents when he represented that he had no knowledge of or involvement in the robbery, when in truth he had knowledge through personal observation and discussions with his co-defendants.

Dennis and McGee were held from the time of arrest until March 2 for a detention hearing. Dennis has been held for trial and McGee was released to the custody of family members. After his initial appearance in federal court, Campbell was transferred to and held in state custody for an unrelated, outstanding warrant. Perdomo will be arraigned and held in the Southern District of New York today and await a removal hearing.

The arrests were made by the ATF Firearms Trafficking Task Force, a recently formed unit comprised of ATF special agents out of the Harrisburg, Pa., Field Office and troopers of the Pennsylvania State Police. The two agencies resources have been combined to create a statewide manhunt for firearms traffickers.

Dennis, McGee and Perdomo, if convicted, face a term of imprisonment of 35 years. Campbell, if convicted, faces a term of imprisonment of five years.

The ATF Task Force was assisted in this investigation by the Pocono Township and East Stroudsburg Police Departments.

This was the second major gun shop theft arrest by ATF in northeastern Pennsylvania in the last six months. In September 2005, ATF arrested five men for the January 2005 theft of 188 firearms from a federally licensed gun shop in Westfield, Tioga County, Pa.

More information about ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.

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