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KLANSMAN SENTENCED FOR SELLING PIPE BOMBS TO BE USED TO DESTROY BUS CARRYING MIGRANT WORKERS

CHATTANOOGA, TN -A member of the North Georgia White Knights has been sentenced to 170 months for constructing pipe bombs and selling them to an undercover agent intending that the bombs were to be used to destroy buses carrying migrant workers, Harry S. Mattice, United States Attorney, Eastern District of Tennessee, and James Cavanaugh, Special Agent in Charge, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Nashville Field Division, announced today. Daniel James Schertz, 27, was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Curtis L. Collier in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Schertz had previously pleaded guilty to six felony counts including building and possessing destructive devices, transferring those destructive devices, teaching another person how to build destructive devices, possession of a firearm while subject to domestic violence restraining order and transferring explosive materials intending that they would be used to commit a crime of violence. At the time of his guilty plea, Schertz admitted that he encountered an undercover informant while working security for the North Georgia White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan at a Klan rally in Dunlap, Tennessee and that

he instructed the informant along with undercover agents on how to build pipe bombs and how to place them on vehicles in such a way as to cause the most destruction.. Schertz further admitted that he believed and intended that the pipe bombs he constructed were to be detonated on a bus carrying Mexican workers traveling to work in Florida. This case reflects the Department of Justice's continuing commitment to preempt acts of terrorism and a continuing focus on domestic terrorist organizations. Mattice commended the excellent work of the agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in support of the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James T. Brooks of the Eastern District of Tennessee. The investigation was handled by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Field Office located in Chattanooga, Tennessee. For more information, contact AUSA James Brooks at 423-752-5140 or Sharry Dedman-Beard, Public Information Officer at 865-545-4167.