



# Department of Justice

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Tampa Orlando Jacksonville Ocala Fort Myers  
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## **ORLANDO MAN SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM WITH PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS**

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that U.S. District Judge Mary S. Scriven yesterday sentenced Hugo Dante Balboa (age 42, of Orlando) to 15 years in federal prison for possessing a firearm and ammunition after having been convicted of a felony. Balboa was sentenced as an Armed Career Criminal because of his multiple prior felony convictions, including burglary of a dwelling, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, and battery on a law enforcement officer. Balboa had pleaded guilty on June 2, 2009.

According to court documents, on December 25, 2008, a silent burglar alarm was triggered at a gun store in Orlando, Florida. Orange County Sheriff's Deputies responded and set up surveillance at the rear exit of the store. The Deputies saw Balboa exiting the store with a crowbar in one hand and a revolver tucked in his pants. Balboa was successfully arrested without incident.

This case was investigated by the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives(ATF). It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bruce S. Ambrose.

This is another case prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice's "Project

Safe Neighborhoods” program - a nationwide, gun-violence reduction initiative strongly supported by ATF. United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton, along with Virginia O’Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Tampa Field Division is coordinating the Project Safe Neighborhoods effort here in the Middle District of Florida in cooperation with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials. The program’s objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders.