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Lewiston Man Sentenced on Federal Firearm Charge

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that a federal judge sitting in Portland yesterday sentenced Philemon Dowell, age 24 of Lewiston, Maine, (formerly Boston, Massachusetts), to serve 37 months in federal prison for being a felon in possession of firearms.

According to court records, Dowell arranged for another person to purchase three handguns from a gun shop in Buckfield, Maine. Dowell then transported the firearms to Massachusetts, where he sold them. Two of the guns were later recovered by Boston police. Dowell was prohibited from possessing firearms because of a 2006 Massachusetts conviction for trafficking in crack cocaine.

This case is part of Maine's **Project Safe Neighborhoods** initiative, which is designed to reduce gun violence and illegal gun possession. United States Attorney Silsby said that the investigation leading to this indictment was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Lewiston Police Department.

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