



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:
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Event: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Rogers Jennings

DETROIT MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SHOOTING AT DEA AGENT

A Detroit man pleaded guilty to assaulting a federal officer with a deadly weapon, United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced today. Berg was joined in the announcement by Thomas E. Brandon, Special-Agent-In-Charge of the Detroit office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Rogers Jennings, 56, of Detroit admitted to firing two rounds from a .22 caliber Marlin semi-automatic rifle at a black 2004 Chevrolet Blazer parked at the corner of Goulburn St. and McNichols in Detroit. A DEA special agent was inside the vehicle conducting surveillance in an investigation unrelated to Jennings. The shots hit the rear passenger-side quarter-panel of the SUV. Ballistics analysis confirmed that the shots came from Jennings' rifle, which he purchased at a K-Mart in Detroit in 1988.

The shooting took place at 9:42 p.m. on September 28, 2005. Jennings was intoxicated at the time.

“We are all grateful that no one was injured as a result of this defendant’s reckless use of a firearm,” said U.S. Attorney Berg. “This case is yet another reminder that, given the grave risk of even unintended injury, such weapons must be handled with extreme care.”

Assault on a federal officer using a deadly weapon is punishable by up to 20 years in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for October 1, 2009.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leonid Feller.