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# **News Release**

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## **Shakopee man sentenced for firearms possession**

A 25-year-old Shakopee man was sentenced today in federal court for illegally possessing a firearm.

On March 13 in Minneapolis, United States District Court Judge Ann Montgomery sentenced Christopher Loren Zink to 108 months in prison and three years of supervised release on one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Zink was indicted on Aug. 5, 2008, and pleaded guilty on Sept. 10, 2008.

According to Zink's plea agreement, he admitted that from April 8 through May 6, he knowingly possessed a short-barreled Winchester 12-gauge shotgun.

Zink had been previously convicted of felony crimes in three Minnesota counties between 2002 and 2007, including assault in Dakota County (2002), theft of a motor vehicle in Hennepin County (2003) and burglary in Scott County (2007).

According to a U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) affidavit, the Shakopee Police Department was notified on April 15 that Zink had attempted to pawn the shotgun at a pawn shop. The shop refused to accept the weapon because the barrel was shorter than the legal requirement.

During the execution of a search warrant at Zink's residence on May 6, police located a short-barreled shotgun and approximately 20 12-gauge shotgun shells. Authorities determined that the weapon was not manufactured in Minnesota.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Shakopee Police Department and the ATF. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathan P. Petterson.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a comprehensive, strategic approach to reducing gun crime in America that was launched in 2001. It networks existing local programs that target gun crime and provides them with additional tools in the effort to make our streets and communities a much more safe place.

