



Department of Justice

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District of North Dakota

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Regent Man Sentenced for Shooting at Fake Eagle

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on September 25, 2008, **Gary L. Stang**, 63, of Regent, North Dakota, pleaded guilty and was sentenced before United States District Court Magistrate Judge Charles S. Miller, Jr., on a charge of attempted take of a migratory bird.

Stang owns and operates Good Life Hunting Company Bed and Breakfast in Hettinger County. Part of his business provided outfitting for pheasant hunters. On March 14, 2008, **Stang** used a bolt action .17 caliber rifle to shoot at an eagle decoy law enforcement officers had mounted at an abandoned farmstead near **Stang's** business.

Magistrate Judge Miller sentenced **Stang** to one year of probation, and **Stang** was ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine and to pay a \$10 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund. **Stang** also lost his hunting privileges in North America for one year, and the .17 caliber rifle was forfeited to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The case was investigated by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

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Assistant United States Attorney Cameron Hayden prosecuted the case, who stated, "This case sets another precedent in the area of wildlife enforcement in North Dakota, since this was the first time agents used an eagle decoy in North Dakota."

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