



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 26, 2005

Contact: Davilyn Brackin

Public Affairs Specialist

(409) 839-2538

TYLER MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

(Tyler, Texas) A 32-year-old Tyler man has been sentenced to 24 months in federal prison for Felon in Possession of a Firearm. **ROBERT LOWELL DUREN** was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge Leonard Davis.

According to evidence presented in court, on June 16, 2004, a Smith County deputy constable stopped Duren's vehicle on State Highway 155 for a traffic violation. During the stop, Duren advised that there was a pistol hidden under the driver's seat of the car. After Duren was arrested for Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon, the constable's office determined that Duren had prior felony convictions out of San Diego County, California for Burglary, Possession of a Bad Check, and Possession of Stolen Property.

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a comprehensive, strategic approach to gun law enforcement that targets gun crime and violent offenders in an effort to make our communities safer. Over the past four years, law enforcement across America increased federal gun crime prosecutions by 76%.

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Here in the Eastern District of Texas, gun crime prosecutions are up an impressive 93%.

The Smith County Constable Precinct 2's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives participated in this investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Jim Noble prosecuted the case.

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