



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PARIS MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON THROUGH PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

(Sherman, TX) A 31-year-old Paris, Texas man has been sentenced to 41 months in federal prison for being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm. **TAJ RAMEL LEE** was sentenced today by United States District Judge Richard A. Schell.

According to information presented in court, on September 17, 2003, the Paris Police Department stopped Lee for speeding in the city of Paris, Texas. During the stop, Lee asked the officers if they were looking for his gun. A search of a home where Lee was living recovered a .45 caliber weapon.

An investigation revealed that Lee has a prior felony conviction for aggravated assault involving a shooting in Lamar County in 1991.

Lee was indicted for Felon in Possession of a Firearm and convicted by a jury in April after a 2-day trial.

This case was prosecuted under the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative. 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.

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Over the past four years, law enforcement across America increased federal gun crime prosecutions by 76%. Here in the Eastern District of Texas, gun crime prosecutions are up an impressive 93%.

This case was investigated by the Paris Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Josh Burgess.

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