



Department of Justice

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin

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Duluth Man Receives 20-Year Sentence for Possessing Sawed-Off Shotgun

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Kenneth I. Askew, 34, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge James T. Moody, a visiting U.S. District Court Judge from the Northern District of Indiana, to 20 years in prison.

After a two-day trial ending on March 24, 2009, the jury found Askew guilty of two crimes: possessing a firearm after having previously been convicted of a felony, and possessing an unregistered sawed-off shotgun. Judge Moody sentenced Askew to the maximum available for the two crimes--ten years each--and ordered that the sentences run consecutively for a total of twenty years, in light of Askew's "long and violent criminal history." Pursuant to federal law, Askew will serve his twenty-year prison term without the possibility of parole.

Today's sentence is the result of an investigation by the Superior Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

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