U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Eastern District of Arkansas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Jane W. Duke

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United States Attorney 501-340-2600

JACKSONVILLE MAN INDICTED ON FEDERAL FIREARMS AND DRUG DISTRIBUTION CHARGES

<u>LITTLE ROCK</u> – Jane W. Duke, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Thomas J. Browne, Special Agent in Charge for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Joe Riehl, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced today that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment of George Allen Thompson, age 41, of Jacksonville, Arkansas on firearms and drug distribution charges.

Specifically, the indictment charges one count of possession with intent to distribute marijuana, one count of felon in possession of a firearm, two counts of felon in possession of ammunition. He was also charged with one count of acting as an accessory after the fact by helping his father, George Wylie Thompson, avoid apprehension, trial, and punishment by sending his father's prescription medication to an individual who was to carry the medication to George Wylie Thompson in Thailand. George Wylie Thompson was in Thailand attempting to evade federal authorities after a search warrant was executed at his home resulting in a seizure of over 140 firearms, which, as a felon, he illegally possessed.

The maximum statutory penalty for possession of marijuana with intent to distribute is not more than five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both. The maximum statutory penalty for being a felon in possession of a firearm or ammunition is not more than ten years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both. The maximum statutory penalty for accessory after the fact is not more than five years' imprisonment, \$125,000.00 fine or both.

This investigation was conducted by agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura G. Hoey.

An indictment contains only allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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