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CHICAGO MAN SENTENCED TO 19 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGALLY ACQUIRING FIREARMS IN LOVES PARK

Rockford — A Chicago, Illinois man was sentenced today to 19 months in federal prison for illegally acquiring firearms in Loves Park while he was under indictment for a felony. The defendant, Ted Kozak, of Chicago, has been in federal custody since he was arrested on March 7, 2011.

Today, United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala sentenced Kozak to 19 months in federal prison and to pay a \$1,000 fine. Kozak will also be on supervised release for 3 years following his release from prison. Kozak had been charged with four counts of illegally acquiring a total of 9 firearms while under indictment for a felony. He pleaded guilty to one count of illegally acquiring a firearm on August 1, 2011.

In pleading guilty, Kozak admitted that on December 29, 2008, at Loves Park, Illinois, he received a Remington 12 gauge shotgun which had been shipped and transported in interstate commerce while he was under indictment for three felony counts of unlawful use of a weapon in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. Kozak had been arrested on the Cook County felony charges on September 7, 2006. Kozak's Illinois firearm owner's identification card was revoked by the Illinois State Police on September 22, 2006 based on his pending felony indictment in Cook County. In addition to the 12 gauge shotgun he acquired on December 28, 2009, Kozak acquired the following firearms while his Cook County felony indictment was pending: three additional 12 gauge shotguns, two .22 caliber rifles, a .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun, a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun and a .357 revolver. All of these firearms had been previously shipped and transported in interstate commerce. Kozak acquired the firearms by instructing a relative to pose as the purchaser of the firearms. Kozak arranged for the purchases through a firearms auction company located in Rock Island, Illinois. Kozak paid for the firearms by sending payments to the auction company. After receiving payment, the auction company sent Kozak's firearms to a firearms dealer in Loves Park, Illinois. Kozak sent his relative money to cover the costs of the transfer fees charged by the firearms dealer. After the firearms were purchased and picked up Kozak's relative, Kozak received them from his relative and placed them into safes located in a garage at a residence located in Loves Park, Illinois.

The sentencing was announced today by Patrick J. Fitzgerald, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and Andrew Traver, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives.

The government was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen

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