



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
District of Maryland



Rod J. Rosenstein  
United States Attorney

Vickie E. LeDuc  
Public Information Officer

36 South Charles Street  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

410-209-4800  
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462  
410-209-4885  
FAX 410-962-3091

Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov

**August 18, 2009**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/md>

**Contact AUSA VICKIE E. LEDUC or  
MARCIA MURPHY at (410) 209-4885**

**OCEAN CITY MAN SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR  
CONSTRUCTING PIPE BOMBS**

*Also Threatened a Witness*

**Baltimore**, Maryland - U.S. District Judge Richard D. Bennett sentenced Norman Arnold, age 21, of Ocean City, Maryland today to 30 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release for constructing pipe bombs, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to his guilty plea, prior to September 11, 2008, Arnold bought PVC piping, end caps and large amounts of fireworks. He used the materials to make several pipe bombs in a shed located in his backyard. Arnold would place a fuse in the end of the pipe and blow it up. He blew up sections of the beach, as well as trash receptacles located on the beach.

Local law enforcement officers searched his residence on September 11, 2008 and seized: two pipe bombs, an end cap and two PVC pipes from the shed; and a bottle of smokeless black powder and a fuse from a gun safe located in his bedroom.

Arnold learned of a witness's cooperation with the criminal investigation. On November 10, 2008 he phoned the witness and threatened that the witness would "pay" for assisting in the investigation.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Ocean City Police Department and the Worcester County State's Attorney's Office for their assistance in the investigation and prosecution. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorney Rachel M. Yasser, who prosecuted the case.