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# **News Release**

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[WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN](http://WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN)

## **Brooklyn Park felon pleads guilty to possessing nine-millimeter pistol**

Earlier today in federal court in St. Paul, a 40-year-old felon from Brooklyn Park pleaded guilty to possessing a nine-millimeter pistol. Leroy Anthony Meadows pleaded guilty to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Meadows, who was indicted on March 15, 2011, entered his plea before United States District Court Judge Paul A. Magnuson.

In his plea agreement, Meadows admitted possessing the Ruger pistol on January 10, 2011. According to a law enforcement affidavit filed in the case, St. Paul police were called to a shooting at 9:15 p.m. at a residence in the 300 block of Atwater Street. There, officers found a man with an apparent gunshot wound to his right arm. The man told police he was watching television in his living room when a vehicle pulled into his driveway and honked. He went outside, and the driver of the vehicle fired three to four shots at him through the open passenger-side window.

Officers subsequently spotted the suspect vehicle traveling westbound on Interstate 94 and initiated a traffic stop on Marshall Avenue, on the west side of the Lake Street Bridge. The driver was identified as Meadows. While the vehicle was coming to a stop, officers observed an object being tossed from the passenger-side window. Police later found the pistol on an embankment below the bridge. During the execution of a search warrant on the vehicle, police seized one spent nine-millimeter casing. In addition, police found a metal tablespoon containing methamphetamine residue on Meadows.

Because Meadows has been previously convicted of at least one felony, he is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms at any time. In 2005, he was convicted in Hennepin County for being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm.

For his crime, Meadows faces a potential maximum penalty of ten years in federal prison. Judge Magnuson will determine his sentence at a future hearing, yet to be scheduled.

This case is the result of an investigation by the St. Paul Police Department and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly A. Svendsen.

Note, this case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, an initiative launched by the U.S. Justice Department in 2001 to promote a multi-jurisdictional, comprehensive approach to reducing gun crime in America. PSN provides resources to strengthen law enforcement and crime prevention partnerships that are working to make our streets and communities safer.

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