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# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Felon sentenced for possessing a .45-caliber pistol**

MINNEAPOLIS – Earlier today in federal court, a 28-year-old felon was sentenced for possessing a .45-caliber, semi-automatic pistol. United States District Court Judge David S. Doty sentenced Willie Brown, Jr., no known address, to 30 months in prison on one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Brown was indicted on August 3, 2010, and pleaded guilty on January 10, 2011.

In his plea agreement, Brown admitted that on November 14, 2006, he possessed the gun, which was found by St. Paul police inside the console of a vehicle he was driving. Because he is a felon, Brown is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition at any time. Brown's prior convictions include fifth-degree possession of a controlled substance in Hennepin County in 2005.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Minneapolis Police Department, the St. Paul Police Department, and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Erika R. Mozangue.

Note, the 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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