



Department of Justice

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United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today Richard M. Oakes, 51, of Massena, New York, pled guilty in federal court in Syracuse to a one count Indictment charging him with selling a semi-automatic rifle without recording the true identity of the purchaser in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(b)(5). Chief Judge Norman A. Mordue set sentencing for July 29, 2011 in Syracuse.

Oakes, a licensed federal firearms dealer, pled guilty to selling a semi-automatic rifle to a prohibited person through a “straw purchaser” in December 2009. Oakes did business as “Straight Shooters, Inc.,” in Massena, New York. Oakes faces a maximum sentence of up to five years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000.00, a period of supervised release following a term of imprisonment and a \$100 special assessment for this federal felony conviction.

The case was investigated by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (Syracuse Office) and the New York State Police, Troop B, Gun Investigation Unit.

For further information, contact Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard R. Southwick at 315-448-0672.