



Department of Justice

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GUERNSEY COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 21 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR ILLEGALLY TRAFFICKING LIVE DEER

COLUMBUS – Danny L. Parrott, 62, of Kimbolton in Guernsey County was sentenced to 21 months imprisonment followed by six months of home confinement for conspiracy and violating federal laws for interstate shipments of live deer that had not been tested for disease.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Greg Jackson, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announced the sentenced handed down Friday, April 9 by U.S. District Judge Algenon L. Marbley.

A jury convicted Parrott on October 16, 2009 of two counts of conspiracy and 12 counts of violating the Lacey Act, which regulates interstate shipment of animals, in connection with the sale of 54 whitetail deer that had not been tested for diseases. The deer were sent to a hunting preserve in South Carolina in 2005.

Testimony at trial included statements that Parrott arranged to purchase the deer from Amish deer propagators in Holmes and Knox counties. Parrott was told that the deer had not been tested. Federal law requires that any deer he shipped out of state are required to be tested for tuberculosis and accompanied by proper ear tags and a veterinarian's certificate. Deer sent from Ohio to another state must be certified to be tuberculosis free. Most states also prohibit introducing deer into a state if the deer are not from a herd certified as free from Chronic Wasting Disease, nor are purchasers permitted to receive uncertified deer shipments.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enforces the unlawful interstate trafficking of wildlife, commonly known as the Federal "Lacey Act." The Lacey Act is the oldest national wildlife law. This multi-state investigation was headed by agents with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who worked cooperatively with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Ohio BCI&I, and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Delaware, Ohio field office can be reached at 740-368-0137.

After serving his prison term and home confinement sentences, Parrott will be on supervised release, a form of parole, for three years. Parrott was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$35,200 to the South Carolina hunting preserve.

Stewart commended the investigation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio BCI&I and Ohio Division of Wildlife, and Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Michael Marous and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Robinson, who prosecuted the case.

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