



U.S. Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA – United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the filing of a four-count indictment charging STEVEN RAYNARD MASON with making a false statements to a federal firearms licensee, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(a)(1)(A).¹ The information charges that the defendant MASON knowingly falsely certified on ATF Forms 4473, which federally licensed firearms dealers are required by law to keep in connection with the sale of any firearm, that he was the actual buyer of three pistols. A person who purchases a firearm for another person and falsely completes the Form 4473 is a "straw purchaser." Acting as a straw purchaser is referred to as "lying and buying." This offense is a felony punishable by up to five years imprisonment.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
STEVEN RAYNARD MASON	Philadelphia, PA	26 years old

If convicted the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 25 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, a \$1,250,000 fine, and a \$500 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives and has been assigned to Special Assistant United States Attorney Vicki Markovitz.

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¹ An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.