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**REPEAT OFFENDER RABANNI W. SALEEM
SENTENCED TO 45 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR
BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

Shreveport, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that Rabanni W. Saleem, also known as Robert W. Brown, 59, of Shreveport, La., was sentenced Thursday to 33 months in prison and a term of three years supervised release upon his release from prison by United States District Judge Tom Stagg.

Saleem was convicted on July 31 by a federal jury of two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm on two different occasions. Evidence presented at trial showed that on November 23, 2011, Shreveport Police officers responded to a 911 call from a customer at the Corner Store located at 600 East 70th Street in Shreveport. The customer reported that Saleem pulled a firearm from under the counter and pointed it at the customer. Police arrived, placed Saleem under arrest, and seized the 9 mm semi-automatic firearm used by Saleem. Further investigation revealed that on April 26, 2011, Saleem was observed in possession of this same firearm in the same store.

Saleem has two prior felony convictions, including a 2010 federal conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Saleem was on supervised release for this conviction when he committed these two most recent crimes. Saleem's prior sentence of supervised release was revoked and Saleem was sentenced to 12 months in prison on his 2010 conviction. Saleem's total prison term is 45 months.

This case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide program which began in 2001 designed to reduce violence by aggressively enforcing existing federal firearm laws. The case was investigated by the Shreveport Police and the Shreveport office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert W. Gillespie, Jr.

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