

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

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CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

MAN SENTENCED ON GUN CHARGE

BUFFALO, NY - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr., announced today that Gregory Sanders, 41, of Arcade, New York, who was convicted of knowingly possessing ammunition after having previously been convicted of a crime, was sentenced to time served (16 months) and six months home detention by Chief U.S. District Court Judge William M. Skretny.

Assistant United States Attorney Richard P. Maigret, who handled the case, stated that the Arcade Police, Wyoming County Sheriff's Department and New York State Police were called to Sanders' home in Arcade on April 17, 2010. The call was made by the defendant's wife who indicated that her husband was threatening her and their children during a domestic argument. When police arrived, officers were told by Sanders wife, who had fled with her children, that the defendant was in the residence with a firearm, that he had stated that his wife should be afraid, and that "if the police came, it would be bad."

Police attempted to contact the defendant by telephone but he remained inside and refused to exit. Sanders surrendered after several hours of negotiations with law enforcement. A shotgun and several rounds of ammunition were recovered. Sanders was previously convicted of a felony in the state of South Carolina for an assault on a police officer.

U.S. Attorney Hochul noted that this case is part of the Project Exile and Project Impact Programs. These programs involve a cooperative effort between, in this case, the Wyoming County District Attorney's Office and the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of New York with regard to the prosecution of firearm offenses. In cases involving instances, such as the present case, where the prosecution of a firearm offense would result in a potentially greater penalty if prosecuted federally, the Wyoming

County District Attorney's Office has agreed to cooperate with the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of New York in the federal prosecution of such case. This present conviction is an example of such cooperation.

The sentencing is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives from the Buffalo Field Office, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Francis J. Christiano, assisted by Officers of the Arcade Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Laird and the members of the Wyoming County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Farris Heimann.