



PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

*Reducing Gun Violence through
Aggressive Prosecution and
Community Outreach*



WINTER 2011



**SITE OF TRAINING SESSION WITH THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
IN DECEMBER 2010**

FEDERAL SUPPORT

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Inside This Issue:

Introduction	1
Recent Case	2
Cases Indicted	3
Cases Sentenced	3
Referrals	4

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a major priority of the Department of Justice. Its goal is to reduce gun violence and create safer communities by prosecuting weapons cases in federal court where serious sentences are available for prohibited persons found to be in possession of firearms or ammunition.

In this issue we list 22 recently indicted or sentenced cases from eight counties and one Indian reservation.

On December 17, 2010, we met with several DDAs at the Washington County District Attorney's Office in Hillsboro to discuss PSN cases. On February 4, 2011, we hosted a conference at the Federal Courthouse in Portland entitled "Combating Domestic Violence Using Federal and State Firearms Laws," which was attended by over 100 people. Please contact us if you would like to schedule a training session.

SIGNIFICANT RECENT CASE

On November 8, 2010, Federal District Judge Owen M. Panner sentenced Shawn Patrick Erickson, age 42, of Klamath Falls, to 15 years' imprisonment for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

In December 2009 Klamath Falls Police Department (KFPD) responded to a burglary in progress. The victim reported a white Nissan Maxima parked in her driveway and a person carrying items out of her house. When officers arrived the vehicle was gone, but a KFPD officer later observed the white Nissan Maxima backing out of a driveway two blocks from the crime scene. He approached the Nissan Maxima with his handgun drawn and ordered the driver to stop, but defendant accelerated past the officer, who jumped out of the way. Defendant led officers on a high speed chase with speeds up to 90 mph in icy conditions before finally crashing his vehicle. Erickson was unconscious, suffered serious injuries, and was taken to the hospital. Officers recovered a Springfield .40 caliber handgun, a Walther .380 caliber handgun, and other stolen property at the crash scene, which defendant had just stolen from the victim's residence, along with additional property stolen out of Bend, Oregon.

Erickson is an Armed Career Criminal under federal law because he has three or more convictions for violent felony crimes, six first degree burglary convictions and three robbery convictions. He also has convictions for unauthorized use of a vehicle, possession of a controlled substance, Criminal Mischief I, Theft I, and Forgery I.

This case was investigated jointly by the KFPD and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas W. Fong.

REPORT ILLEGAL GUNS

CALL 1-800-ATF-GUNS

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