

ATF arrests Georgia federal firearms licensee

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Dealer Charged in 70-Count Indictment for Crimes Related to Business Practices

SAVANNAH, Ga. - Special Agent in Charge Vanessa L. McLemore of the Atlanta Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced today the arrest of a licensed gun dealer in southeast Georgia.

Yesterday, Mark Eric McDaniel, 37, surrendered to authorities at his Waycross, Ga. residence, following an eight-month ATF investigation into the business operations of "McDaniel's Firearms" in Waycross. Personnel from the Georgia State Patrol and Ware County Sheriff's Office assisted in the arrest.

Last week, a federal grand jury in Savannah charged McDaniel in a 70-count indictment, involving five separate violations of the Gun Control Act. The indictment had remained under seal until today, when McDaniel made his first appearance in U.S. District Court in Brunswick, Ga.

"If ever there was a business where extraordinary diligence is required, it is the firearms business," said McLemore.

According to the indictment, McDaniel is accused of receiving, transferring and selling firearms without keeping required records of the transactions and knowingly failing to conduct mandatory criminal history checks prior to selling guns. McDaniel is further charged with assisting in the transfer of a firearm to a prohibited person. If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine or both.

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