

The J Group's
EDLA SENTENCING NEWSLETTER



WEEK OF
OCT 26 TO NOV 1

NOVEMBER 5, 2025 ISSUE

Carjacking, Felon in Possession, and Fraud...

.... see what happened this past week in the Eastern District of Louisiana

CASE SPOTLIGHT

United States v. Mervin Amacker, Jr. **23-cr-083**

What's the Basis?: On March 8, 2023, Mr. Amacker boarded a New Orleans Regional Transit Authority ("RTA") bus as a passenger. At some point during the bus's normal route, Mr. Amacker produced a firearm and demanded that the driver take him to a local hospital. The driver complied. While en route, Mr. Amacker instructed the driver to "go fast" and ignore traffic signals. Upon arrival at the hospital, Mr. Amacker exited the bus and was admitted to the emergency room. There, Mr. Amacker - whom had previously been convicted of a felony - was found in possession of a 9mm Ruger equipped with a 17-shot capacity magazine and five live rounds.

What's the Violation?: Mr. Amacker pled guilty to ***Carjacking and Felon in Possession of a Firearm***, in violation of ***18 U.S.C. §§ 2119(1), 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(8)***.

What's the Punishment?: Judge Greg G. Guidry sentenced Mr. Amacker to **155 months of imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release** for each violation. The sentences are to run concurrently.

This Week's Other Matters

U.S. V. TAYLOR, 24-CR-209

Charge: Bank Fraud
(18 U.S.C. § 1344(2))

Sentence: **84 months imprisonment** and 5 years of supervised release.

Judge: Honorable Jane Triche Milazzo

U.S. V. TAYLOR, 23-CR-051

Charge: False Statement to the SBA
(18 U.S.C. § 1001)

Sentence: **19 months of imprisonment** and 3 years of supervised release. Defendant also ordered to pay **restitution in the amount of \$42,000.00**.

Judge: Honorable Darrel J. Papillion

WHAT'S THAT STATUTE?

**CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR MORE
DETAILS ON THE VIOLATIONS INCLUDED IN
THIS WEEKS' EDITION**

- [18 U.S.C. § 922](#)
- [18 U.S.C. § 924](#)
- [18 U.S.C. § 1001](#)
- [18 U.S.C. § 1344](#)
- [21 U.S.C. § 841](#)
- [21 U.S.C. § 846](#)



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U.S. V. TRIGGS, 25-CR-52

Charge: False Statement to the SBA
(18 U.S.C. § 1001)

Sentence: **3 years of probation.** Defendant also ordered to pay **restitution in the amount of \$64,065.00.**

Judge: Honorable Brandon S. Long

U.S. V. WOOLRIDGE, 23-CR-252

Charge: Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon
(18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(8))

Sentence: **125 months of imprisonment** and 3 years of supervised release.

Judge: Honorable Susie Morgan

U.S. V. PENN, 24-CR-101

Charge: Distribution of Fentanyl
(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) & 841(b)(1) (3 counts))

Sentence: **120 months imprisonment** and 5 years of supervised release. Sentences to be served concurrently.

Judge: Honorable Nannette Jolivet Brown

U.S. V. BLUNT, 23-CR-033

Charge: Possession with Intent to Distribute Controlled Substances; Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime; Possession of a Machine Gun; Felon in Possession of a Firearm

(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), (b)(1)(D); 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(a)(8), (a)(2), (c)(1)(A); 18 U.S.C. § 922(o), (g)(1)

Sentence: **120 months of imprisonment** (60 months as to all counts except the 924(c), which consists of 60 months to be served consecutive to all other counts) and a total of 5 years of supervised release.

Judge: Honorable Barry W. Ashe

U.S. V. MARCELIN, 23-CR-083

Charge: Possession with Intent to Distribute Controlled Substances; Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime; Felon in Possession of a Firearm

(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), (b)(1)(D); 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(A)(i); 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(8))

Sentence: **185 months of imprisonment** (125 months as to all counts except the 924(c), which consists of 60 months to be served consecutive to all other counts) and 5 years of supervised release, as to each count.

Judge: Honorable Nannette Jolivet Brown

U.S. V. HAYNES, 24-CR-132

Charge: Possession with Intent to Distribute Controlled Substances
(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C); 846

Sentence: **12 months and 1 day of imprisonment** and 3 years of supervised release, as to each count. Sentences to be served concurrently.

Judge: Honorable Brandon S. Long

U.S. V. HAMILTON, 11-CR-235

Violation of Mandatory and Standard Conditions of Supervised Release: *Engaging in Criminal Behavior, Use of Illicit Substances, and Absconding from Supervision*

Sentence: **18 months of imprisonment** total for the violations.

Judge: Honorable Nannette J. Brown

U.S. V. QUOC TRAN, 24-CR-201

Charge: Possession of a Machine Gun
(18 U.S.C. §§ 922(o); 924(a)(2))

Sentence: **12 months and 1 day of imprisonment** and 1 year of supervised release, as to each count.

Judge: Honorable Barry W. Ashe

U.S. V. HARVEY, 23-CR-187

Charge: Possession with intent to Distribute Controlled Substances; Felon in Possession of a Firearm

(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(B), (b)(1)(C); 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(8))

Sentence: **144 months of imprisonment** and 4 years of supervised release. Sentences to be served concurrently.

Judge: Honorable Darrel J. Papillion