

The J Group's EDLA SENTENCING NEWSLETTER



WEEK OF
SEPT 28 TO OCT 4

OCTOBER 8, 2025 ISSUE

Unregistered Firearms, Revocations and Misprison...

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

CASE SPOTLIGHT

United States v. Dustin Calahan

24-cr-246

What's the Basis?: The Factual Basis states that the FBI issued search warrants for Mr. Calahan's Facebook and Twitter accounts, which eventually led to a search warrant for his residence. During the search, FBI agents recovered a short-barreled rifle. According to the ATF, a short-barreled rifle is defined as having a barrel length of less than 16 inches. Possession of such a rifle is without a special tax stamp, which Mr. Calahan did not possess. Agents also recovered a silencer that was not properly registered.

What's the Violation?: Mr. Calahan pled guilty to two counts of *Possession of Unregistered Firearms*, in violation of **26 U.S.C. §§ 5841, 5861, and 5871**.

Sentence: Judge Sarah S. Vance sentenced Mr. Calahan to 12 months and 1 day for each violation. The sentences are to run concurrently.

This Week's Other Matters

U.S. V. WATSON, 19-CR-079

Violation of Mandatory and Special Conditions of Supervised Release

Sentence: 12 months to be served consecutive to any other sentence

Judge: Honorable Wendy B. Vitter

U.S. V. THOMPSON, 24-CR-224

Charge: Misprison of Felony (**18 U.S.C. § 4**)

Sentence: 3 years probation

Judge: Honorable Brandon S. Long

WHAT'S THAT STATUTE?

CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR MORE
DETAILS ON THE VIOLATIONS INCLUDED IN
THIS WEEK'S EDITION

- [18 U.S.C. § 4](#)
- [26 U.S.C. § 5841](#)
- [26 U.S.C. § 5861](#)
- [26 U.S.C. § 5871](#)



What's a Misprison of Felony?

Misprison of felony is the act of knowing that a felony has been committed, but concealing that fact and failing to report it to the authorities. Though rarely used, it can be a strategic tool for both prosecutors and defense attorneys seeking lesser charges.



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