



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea
Western District of Wisconsin

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CONTACT: ROBERT A. ANDERSON

PHONE: (608) 264-5158

TWITTER: @USAO_WDWI

WAUSAU FELON SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSING FIREARM

MADISON, WIS. – Timothy M. O'Shea, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Michael Wienandt, 26, Wausau, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge James D. Peterson to 6 years in federal prison for possessing a firearm as a convicted felon. Wienandt pleaded guilty to this charge on February 12, 2021.

Wienandt was arrested on May 15, 2020 by members of the Central Wisconsin Narcotics Task Force and Everest Metro Police Department at a bar in the Village of Weston in connection with an attempted burglary earlier in the day. When the officers took Wienandt into custody, he had a .40 caliber handgun in his waistband. The investigators also found a sawed-off shotgun in a room at a nearby hotel in Weston where Wienandt was staying. Wienandt has prior felony burglary convictions which make his possession of firearms unlawful.

During Wienandt's sentencing, Judge Peterson expressed concern about Wienandt's past repeated pattern of criminal behavior after completing earlier sentences. He also considered Wienandt's "atrocious" conduct and threats toward police during his arrest an aggravating factor.

The charge against Wienandt was the result of an investigation conducted by the Central Wisconsin Narcotics Task Force, Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation, Everest Metro Police Department, and Wausau Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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