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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2010

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On May 18, 2010, a jury convicted Eureka resident William Ray Seymore, 33, of felony possession of a short barreled shotgun. Mr. Seymore also admitted that he served a prior prison term for felony auto theft. Sentencing is set for June 15, 2010, at which time Mr. Seymore faces 4 years in prison.

In the late-afternoon hours of February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Eureka police responded to a 911 call from the manager of the Texaco station. The call detailed an on-going disturbance in the fueling area between a male and a female. The male, later identified as William Seymore, left the scene prior to law enforcement's arrival. By way of the 911 call and the statement provided by the female party to the disturbance, Eureka Police Officer Drake Goodale learned that Mr. Seymore likely had a sawed-off, or short barreled, shotgun inside his vehicle. From the Texaco station, Officer Goodale responded to the Blue Herron hotel, where he located the suspect vehicle and observed a sawed-off shot gun laying in plain view on the driver's side floor board. Mr. Seymore was taken into custody without incident.

Mr. Seymore contended that the shotgun, which had neither finger print evidence nor a serial number, and which was found in a vehicle not registered in his name, was not his.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Ben McLaughlin.