

PRESS RELEASE

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Macomb County Prosecutor new policy: "One with gun gets you two"

Mount Clemens, MI - Criminals committing a felony while in possession of a gun will be charged with a mandatory two-year felony under a policy announced today by Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido, continuing his tough-on-illegal-guns record and reversing years of gun crime policies.

"One felony with a gun will get you two years in prison," said Lucido. "There is no constitutional right to possess a gun when committing a felony."

This month the Prosecutor's Office Warrant Unit met with Macomb County police detectives, and heard their collective concerns about an increasing number of cases involving guns. Prosecutor Lucido responded swiftly.

The sometimes controversial Michigan felony firearm statute carries an mandatory two year, consecutive sentence.

For over a decade, it was the policy and practice of the Prosecutor's Office to charge felony firearm usually only if the weapon was actively used, such as in an armed robbery, carjacking, or discharged in an assault or homicide.

Lucido said his office will continue to actively pursue other gun charges, including felon in possession of a weapon and carrying a concealed weapon without a license. A convicted felon who possesses a gun or ammunition will be charged with a 5-year felony. Anyone without a concealed pistol license who has a gun in a vehicle they operate or occupy, whether concealed or otherwise, could face a 5-year felony, unless it is properly stored inaccessible to the driver, unloaded, and in a case.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's office represents the people and is committed to achieving justice under the laws of Michigan. All that are accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.