



# Owensboro Police Department

Art Ealum  
Chief of Police

222 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Owensboro, KY 42303

## NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE: Public Information Office  
DATE OF RELEASE: **January 5, 2024**  
REPORT NUMBER: 22-5823 **\*\*UPDATE\*\***  
SUBJECT: Significant Drug Arrest  
RELEASED BY: Officer Dylan Evans

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Owensboro Man Federally Sentenced in Drug Case

**\*\*UPDATE\*\* - On Thursday, January 4, 2024, Skylar Chase Riney was federally sentenced to 9 years and 10 months in Federal prison, followed by 3 years of supervised release.**

On Friday, February 18th, 2022 Owensboro Police Department Street Crimes Detectives acted jointly with the Owensboro-Daviess County Drug Task Force (HIDTA) and Homeland Security Investigations to execute a search warrant. This search warrant was obtained due to an ongoing drug trafficking investigation and resulted in Skylar Chase Riney (36 years old of Owensboro) being arrested and charged with the below charges:

- Possession of a Handgun by a Convicted Felon (Enhancement) (6 Counts)
- Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon (Enhancement)
- Receiving Stolen Property (Firearm) (3 Counts)
- Trafficking in Marijuana (Over 5 Pounds) 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Enhancement)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 2<sup>nd</sup> or Greater Offense (Over 2 Grams of Methamphetamine) (Enhancement)
- Trafficking in Controlled Substance 1<sup>st</sup> Offense (Cafentanil or Fentanyl Derivatives) (Enhancement)
- Deliver or Manufacture Drug Paraphernalia

This drug investigation resulted in 11 pounds of Marijuana, 7 grams of Methamphetamine, 180 Fentanyl pills, 6 handguns, a shotgun, and over \$1,000 in U.S. currency being seized. 3 of the handguns recovered had been reported stolen.

**The Owensboro Police Department is committed to working with our federal and local partners to make this community safer, and getting these dangerous drugs and firearms is an important step in doing so.**

**If you would like to submit an anonymous tip on this or any other crime, you can do so with Crime Stoppers at 270-687-8484.**



# THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

United States Attorney's Office  
Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2024

[WDKY.gov](http://WDKY.gov) | [@WDKYnews](https://twitter.com/WDKYnews)

Contact: Dawn Masden

[dawn.masden@usdoj.gov](mailto:dawn.masden@usdoj.gov)

## **Owensboro Felon Sentenced to Over 9 Years in Federal Prison for Unlawful Possession of a Firearm**

Owensboro, KY – An Owensboro man was sentenced yesterday to 9 years and 10 months in federal prison for the illegal possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

U.S. Attorney Michael A. Bennett of the Western District of Kentucky, Special Agent in Charge Michael E. Stansbury of the FBI Louisville Field Office, and Chief Art Ealum of the Owensboro Police Department made the announcement.

According to court documents, Skylar Chase Riney, 37, was sentenced to 9 years and 10 months in prison, followed by 3 years of supervised release, for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. On February 18, 2022, in Daviess County, Kentucky, Riney possessed three firearms, an Armscor, model 206, .38 caliber handgun, a Smith and Wesson, model M&P 9 M2.0, and a Kimber, model K6S Combat, .357 caliber revolver. Riney was prohibited from possessing a firearm because he had previously been convicted of the following felony offenses.

**On June 3, 2019, in Daviess Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of possession of a controlled substance in the first degree, first offense, Lortab, possession of a controlled substance in the first degree, first offense, methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia while in possession of a firearm, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.**

**On June 3, 2019, in Daviess Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of trafficking in a controlled substance in the first degree, first offense, less than or equal to 2 grams methamphetamine and possession of a controlled substance in the first degree, first offense, opiates.**

**On August 9, 2017, in Daviess Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of burglary in the third degree, possession of a controlled substance in the first degree, methamphetamine, and theft by unlawful taking or disposition, \$500 but less than \$10,000.**

**On April 20, 2016, in Daviess Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of theft by unlawful taking of property valued at \$500 but less than \$10,000 (shoplifting).**

**On July 1, 2010, in Daviess Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.**

**On December 19, 2005, in Ohio Circuit Court, Riney was convicted of theft by unlawful taking or disposition.**

There is no parole in the federal system.

The case was investigated by the Owensboro Police Department and FBI Owensboro, with assistance from the ATF.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank Dahl prosecuted the case.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and gun violence, and to make our neighborhoods safer for everyone. On May 26, 2021, the Department launched a violent crime reduction strategy strengthening PSN based on these core principles: fostering trust and legitimacy in our communities, supporting community-based organizations that help prevent violence from occurring in the first place, setting focused and strategic enforcement priorities, and measuring the results.

###