

Capone faces federal gun charges

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By Brad W. Gary of the Tribune

Husband of missing Clarkston woman is indicted



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Charles A. Capone could spend 10 years in prison on gun charges following his indictment by a federal grand jury.

An indictment, filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court at Coeur d'Alene, charges the 48-year-old Moscow man with two counts of unlawful possession of a firearm. Capone, a twice-convicted felon, is barred from

owning a firearm based on convictions for aggravated assault and burglary in 1998 and bank larceny in 1997.

Capone is also named by federal agents as a person of interest in connection with his estranged wife's disappearance. Rachael Anderson, 40, was last seen in Moscow April 16, and is the subject of a multiagency task force investigating her whereabouts.

A grand jury alleges Capone carried a Glock .40-caliber pistol around in February on one charge. A second count alleges Capone had a Remington .270 rifle and a Mossberg 12-gauge shotgun on Oct. 10, 2009.

Capone reportedly told a friend he carried the Glock while he followed his wife in February, according to documents filed in federal court, to determine whether she was seeing someone else.

The couple was married last year, but Anderson filed for divorce Jan. 7, after allegations Capone strangled and shoved his wife at her Clarkston home five days earlier, according to court records. He was also reportedly the last person to see his wife in Moscow the day of her disappearance April 16.

Capone has not been named a suspect in her disappearance, nor have any charges been filed in that case.

He is eager to get his side of the story across. During a recent visit to the Bonner County Jail in Sandpoint, Capone told the Tribune he is awaiting consent of his attorneys before speaking publicly on the charges. Neither his attorneys on the gun charges, Kailey E. Moran and Roger J. Peven in Spokane, or defense attorney Mark Monson of Moscow, have returned repeated telephone calls to discuss the case.

Rumors about Anderson continue to circulate throughout the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley, but police have said the case remains a missing persons case.

Detectives have released little information in recent weeks as they continue to pursue leads in their investigation. Moscow Assistant Police Chief David Duke said the public is providing a great number of those tips.

"We're not hoping to exhaust any leads soon," Duke said Wednesday. "There's a lot of work for us to continue to do."

A trial in the gun possession case, estimated to last about three days, has not yet been scheduled. In addition to a prison term, Capone faces a fine of up to \$250,000 if convicted. He is being held without bail pending trial.

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