



## 2 Medford Men Sentenced for 'Cross Burning' Hate Crime

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MEDFORD, Ore. -- Two Medford men have been sentenced to prison time for their roles in burning images of a cross and the letters "KKK" into the front lawn of a Medford family a year ago.

The U.S. Attorney for Oregon today said that Gary Moss, 37, was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison for conspiring to deprive individuals of their civil rights. Co-conspirator Devan Klaussegger, 30, was sentenced to serve 51 months for the same charge. Both defendants were ordered to serve three years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$3,107 restitution to the victims.

According to plea agreements filed in court, both defendants admit that on May 26, 2008, Moss, who is white, poured a flammable liquid in the shape of a cross and the letters "KKK" on the front lawn of a home leased by an African-American male. Then Klaussegger, also white, handed Moss a small explosive device which Moss used to start a fire on the lawn.

The fire was close enough to the victim's house to endanger the house and its occupants, including the man's wife, who is white, and their two small children. A neighbor extinguished the fire with a garden hose before any further damage was done.

When they pleaded guilty in February, Moss and Klaussegger admitted their actions were intended to scare the victims into moving because of their race, which is a violation of federal civil rights laws under the Fair Housing Act.

[VIEW the original indictment](#)

In handing down the sentences, U.S. District Judge Ann Aiken said, "this case is about making a difference for the next generation. ... The impact will be felt by the victims for the rest of their lives. Generally I believe human beings are kind and generous but in this case I think that veil has been pierced."

U.S. Attorney Karen Immergut said she hopes "the sentences imposed today will deter others from engaging in similar conduct."

The U.S. Attorney's Office's public website now has a Civil Rights Complaint Form, [available by clicking here](#).

### **PAST COVERAGE**

['KKK' BURNED INTO MEDFORD LAWN](#)

[NEIGHBORHOOD UNITES IN FACE OF HATE CRIME](#)

[COMMUNITY OUTRAGED BY HATE CRIME](#)

[MEDFORD COUNCILMAN SPEAKS OUT](#)