

CLALLAM COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

MARK B. NICHOLS

223 EAST 4TH STREET, SUITE 11
PORT ANGELES, WA 98362
PHONE: 360-417-2301 FAX: 360-417-2469
TOLL FREE FROM FORKS: 360-374-5324

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2025
Port Angeles, Washington

Diamond Point Man Sentenced to Eight Months Jail for Felony Firearm Possession *Clallam County Superior Court Cause No.: 25-1-00211-05*

On December 2, 2025, Clallam County Superior Court Judge Brent Basden sentenced Stephen Massey to eight months jail after a jury found him guilty of two felony counts of Unlawful Possession of a Firearm in the Second Degree.

On August 29, 2025, during the execution of a search warrant Clallam County Sheriff's Office representatives located two firearms in Massey's bedroom. One of the firearms was located next to Massey's bed. The other was in a drawer, also next to his bed, in immediate proximity to an expired driver's license belonging to Massey. Massey is a convicted felon and is prohibited from possessing firearms.

The State charged Massey with two felony counts of Unlawful Possession of a Firearm in the Second Degree. Massey pleaded not guilty to the charges and exercised his right to a jury trial. At trial, the State argued that Massey had dominion and control over the firearms, had knowledge of their whereabouts and of his inability to possess firearms. Massey took the stand and testified that he did not know about the firearms as he was only there to take care of his mother with dementia. The jury was unpersuaded by Massey's defense and found him guilty as charged.

Under Washington law, Massey faced a standard range sentence of 4 to 12 months jail, even though he had prior out of state convictions for offenses involving possession of a firearm by a prohibited offender. The State, represented by Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecutor Michele Devlin, advocated for a 12-month sentence at the top of the range and further requested the court order Massey to register as a felony firearm offender. The Defense argued for an eight-month sentence. The court sentenced Massey to eight months jail and ordered Massey to register as a felony firearm offender. The firearms seized by law enforcement from Massey will be forfeited.

County Prosecuting Attorney Mark Nichols praised the work of Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Michele Devlin in obtaining the convictions. "My team worked hard to obtain these convictions, and for good reason. There is a clear public interest in restricting the ability of felons to possess firearms. Research has repeatedly shown that individuals

convicted of crimes, particularly those involving firearms, are many times more likely than law-abiding citizens to commit acts of violence. This case demonstrates that my office takes crimes involving firearms seriously and will aggressively prosecute them to promote public safety.”

Office Information

The Clallam County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office employs over 25 people, including 14 attorneys. Clallam County, which includes Forks, Port Angeles, and Sequim, has an approximate population of 78,000.

The Criminal Division is responsible for prosecuting all felonies in Clallam County and all misdemeanors in unincorporated areas of Clallam County as well as the Cities of Port Angeles and Sequim.

The Civil Division acts as the law firm representing the County and its agencies. The Civil Division advises and represents all of the County's elected officials and departments on a myriad of complex legal matters. The range of legal representation provided by this unit is expansive and covers virtually every aspect of civil practice.

The Child Support Enforcement Division is wholly funded by and represents the Division of Child Support of the State of Washington. The Support Enforcement Division carries out judicial establishment of paternity and child support, enforcements for failure to pay court-ordered child support, and modifications to existing child support orders. The Support Enforcement Division also represents the State of Washington in collection actions on parents owing a duty of support.

For more information contact

Michele Devlin
Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
(360) 417-2301
Michele.devlin@clallamcountywa.gov

END