

Arizona man gets 68 years in prison in Nevada standoff case

By KEN RITTER
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A federal judge sentenced a Phoenix man Wednesday to 68 years in prison for his role as a gunman in a standoff that stopped federal agents from rounding up cattle near the Nevada ranch of anti-government activist Cliven Bundy three years ago.

Prosecutors had sought a maximum sentence of 73 years for Gregory Burleson after he was convicted of threatening and assaulting a federal officer, obstruction and traveling across state lines in aid of extortion.

But Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro in Las Vegas knocked five years off the recommendation, noting that the 53-year-old Burleson has gone blind, has serious health issues and was once an informant for the FBI.

Burleson's attorney, Terrence Jackson, said he will appeal.

Navarro said she believed Burleson and other armed men used "scare and bullying tactics" to put federal agents in such mortal fear that they abandoned attempts to enforce court orders to round up Bundy cattle in April 2014.

Navarro said the government employees suffered



John Locher/Las Vegas Review-Journal via AP, File

In this 2014, file photo, rancher Cliven Bundy, flanked by armed supporters, speaks at a protest camp near Bunkerville, Nev. Gregory Burleson, 53, of Phoenix, was sentenced Wednesday in Las Vegas to more than 68 years in federal prison for his role as a gunman in a standoff that stopped federal agents from rounding up cattle near Cliven Bundy's Nevada ranch in 2014.

lasting psychological harm as a result of the encounter.

"Even though a shot was not fired," the judge declared, "the injuries were very real."

Bundy is a states' rights advocate and a leading figure in a decades-long fight by ranchers and others who maintain the federal government has no authority over vast stretches of public lands in the western United States.

Defendants in the case have maintained they were moved not by anti-government sentiment, but instead by images of U.S. Bureau

of Land Management agents using stun guns and dogs against Bundy family members.

Burleson was not working for the FBI when he called for Arizona militia members to go with him to the Bundy ranch, and he didn't apologize Wednesday for traveling to the scene of the tense standoff.

The confrontation pitted heavily armed federal agents at the gates of corrals where several hundred Bundy cattle had been rounded up, against men with assault rifles on an Interstate 15 overpass and hundreds of protesters in a

dry riverbed below.

"Yes, I was down in the wash," Burleson told the judge. "I did not go with the intention of killing anybody or assaulting anybody. It wasn't a planned tactical assault as the government says we did."

Burleson also conceded later posting "alcohol-fueled rants and raves" on Facebook about his role in making the government back down.

Defense attorney Jackson characterized Burleson as "mesmerized by his fame" after a photo was widely circulated showing him "holding a rifle in sort of a combat pose."

"It made Mr. Burleson feel important," Jackson said.

Burleson didn't testify during his April jury trial.

Jurors found co-defendant Todd Engel, 50, of Idaho guilty of obstruction and traveling across state lines in aid of extortion. Engel could face up to 30 years in prison at sentencing Sept. 28.

Two months of testimony failed to reach verdicts for four other defendants who are being retried.

Bundy, his sons Ammon and Ryan, and two other defendants are due for trial later this year. Six others, including two other Bundy sons, are slated for trial next year.

Man with ties to Bundy gets prison in gun case

PORTLAND (AP) — A man with ties to Oregon standoff leader Ammon Bundy was sentenced Wednesday to 2 1/2 years in federal prison for having a stolen machine gun with an obliterated serial number.

Michael Emry, 55, pleaded guilty in January to unlawfully possessing the fully automatic .50-caliber machine gun.

Emry in December 2015 traveled to southeastern Oregon from Idaho in a van he borrowed from Bundy and then stayed in the same house with the man who led the Jan. 2, 2016, armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Emry was not among the more than two dozen people charged with conspiring to impede federal officers during the 41-day protest against federal control of Western lands.

Defense attorney Lynn Shepard said in a sentencing

memorandum that Emry went to the area to cover the occupation as a journalist. Emry previously operated an online news service called "The Voice of Idaho."

FBI agents arrested Emry in May 2016 when they served a search warrant on his travel trailer in John Day, Oregon, and seized the machine gun.

Before the warrant was served, Emry had been in negotiations to sell the gun to someone he had been told was the captain of a militia group but actually was an undercover police officer, authorities said.

Emry admitted stealing the gun from an Idaho man.

"I am a peaceful man, and I made a mistake," Emry said at Wednesday's court hearing in Eugene, according to *The Register-Guard* newspaper.

The theft victim valued the weapon at \$25,000, according to prosecutor Nathan Lichvarcik's sentencing memo.

Idaho may offer hunters bounties for bad wolves

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has proposed putting bounties on problem wolves and allowing hunters to lure wolves with bait.

The proposals come from the department's Wolf Depredation Control Board, which has discussed how best to take action against the high number of wolves killing livestock and big game, the *Capital Press* reported Monday.

The board was established by the Legislature in 2014 to manage wolf-controlling funds. The board consists of representatives from the Department of Fish and Game, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, the ranching industry and the general public.

"The use of sportsmen who pay for the opportunity to hunt or trap is traditionally our best method of managing wildlife populations," Fish and Game Director Virgil Morris said.

Wolf-related livestock

killings are at an all-time low, but federal funding to programs aimed at killing problem wolves has been cut, leading to the state, ranchers and sportsmen paying the bill, Morris said.

Idaho Wildlife Services killed 75 wolves in 2015 out of a statewide population of at least 786, according to a report. There were 35 cattle and 125 sheep killings that year.

Hunters, most of whom were pursuing other game, killed 139 wolves in 2016. Trappers got another 131.

Bear hunters who use bait are allowed to shoot any wolves attracted to the bait if they also hold a wolf tag, Morris said.

The proposed wolf bait rule, which must be approved by the Legislature and the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, would encourage "more wolf hunters to go out in the field and just pursue a wolf, like bears," Morris said.

Oregon house makes National Register of Historic Places

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — The Jacob Clearwater Farmhouse in Oregon has qualified for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The *Register-Guard* reports the house is one of just four single-family residences in the Springfield area built before 1874.

A report by the state Parks and Recreation Department said the home "retains good integrity, and clearly conveys its historic significance, evident in its appearance and style, including its massing, materials, and overall design."

The Clearwater family traveled

along the Oregon Trail in the mid-1800s and homesteaded a half square mile along the Middle Fork of the Willamette River in 1865.

Its current owners are Deanna and Dave Larson.

Thieves mar memorial bench for teens killed in plane crash

GRANTS PASS (AP) — Thieves have ruined a wood bench honoring two Oregon teenagers who died in a plane crash last year.

The *Daily Courier* reports the bench is at the entrance to a field at Grants Pass High School, where Max Belnap and Ryan Merker competed at sports. They died in a plane crash off

the Oregon coast on July 4, 2016.

Belnap's younger brother Lucas made the memorial bench as part of his Eagle Scout project. It was dedicated at the end of the school year.

Thieves stole two large slabs of elm from the bench over the weekend, leaving just a metal frame.

Cheryl Belnap says the project was a labor of love for her son, and the vandalism is devastating.

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny	Plenty of sunshine	Hot with plenty of sun	Very warm with plenty of sun	Mostly sunny and hot

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
94° 62° 93° 60° 95° 62° 97° 62° 97° 66°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
97° 62° 97° 61° 99° 65° 100° 64° 100° 66°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday
TEMPERATURE HIGH LOW
Yesterday 94° 58°
Normals 90° 60°
Records 109° (1928) 40° (1908)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date Trace
Normal month to date 0.28"
Year to date 11.30"
Last year to date 7.27"
Normal year to date 7.86"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday
TEMPERATURE HIGH LOW
Yesterday 94° 59°
Normals 90° 60°
Records 109° (1939) 45° (1936)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.18"
Year to date 6.59"
Last year to date 4.94"
Normal year to date 5.88"

SUN AND MOON
Sunrise today 5:33 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:30 p.m.
Moonrise today 10:32 a.m.
Moonset today 11:06 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
July 30	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Low clouds followed by some sun today. Partly cloudy tonight. Clouds and sun tomorrow.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Partly sunny today; a shower or thunderstorm in spots.

Western Washington: Clouds breaking for some sun today. Mainly clear tonight.

Eastern Washington: Mostly sunny today. Mainly clear tonight. Brilliant sunshine tomorrow.

Cascades: Mostly sunny and pleasant today. Clear tonight.

Northern California: Partly sunny at the coast today; hot in central parts. Mostly sunny elsewhere.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	68	53	pc	68	53	pc
Baker City	87	51	pc	90	51	s
Bend	90	55	s	90	55	s
Brookings	65	52	pc	66	53	pc
Burns	88	51	pc	92	52	s
Enterprise	87	54	pc	87	56	pc
Eugene	80	51	pc	84	48	s
Heppner	90	58	s	90	59	s
Hermiston	97	62	s	97	61	s
John Day	92	59	pc	93	59	pc
Klamath Falls	88	52	s	89	51	s
La Grande	91	56	pc	91	56	s
Meacham	88	52	pc	89	53	s
Medford	95	63	s	94	62	s
Newport	64	50	pc	63	49	s
North Bend	66	54	pc	65	52	pc
Ontario	94	64	pc	98	66	s
Pasco	97	58	s	95	56	s
Pendleton	94	62	pc	93	60	s
Portland	79	57	pc	82	56	s
Redmond	92	51	s	92	50	s
Salem	80	54	pc	85	54	s
Spokane	91	61	s	90	61	s
Ukiah	88	49	pc	88	50	s
Vancouver	78	55	pc	80	55	s
Walla Walla	95	66	pc	94	65	s
Yakima	96	59	s	95	58	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	83	70	c	86	70	c
Hong Kong	92	80	sh	92	82	sh
Jerusalem	91	72	s	88	69	s
London	68	57	pc	69	60	sh
Mexico City	75	53	pc	76	56	pc
Moscow	80	61	t	83	68	pc
Paris	72	58	pc	72	60	pc
Rome	85	68	pc	84	69	pc
Seoul	89	77	c	87	75	r
Sydney	64	52	pc	70	46	pc
Tokyo	83	77	c	89	79	c

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Friday
Boardman	WSW 8-16	WSW 6-12
Pendleton	W 7-14	WNW 4-8

UV INDEX TODAY

1 4 7 7 4 1

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: As rain drenches part of the Ohio Valley today, severe storms will erupt just to the south. Storms will dot the Southeast as steamy air lingers. Storms in the Western states will focus over the Rockies.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 108° in Palm Springs, Calif. Low 34° in Bodie State Park, Calif.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	88	66	t	85	67	t
Atlanta	90	74	t	90	72	t
Atlanta City	80	73	pc	81	70	t
Baltimore	87	71	pc	79	66	r
Billings	91	65	t	91	64	t
Birmingham	95	76	t	89	73	t
Boise	91	66	pc	97	67	s
Boston	76	65	pc	78	63	c
Charleston, SC	88	75	t	91	75	t
Chicago	80	69	t	77	62	t
Cleveland	86	70	t	78	65	r
Dallas	100	81	s	101	80	s
Denver	83	62	t	89	63	t
Detroit	85	66	t	79	60	sh
El Paso	94	74	pc	96	73	t
Fairbanks	74	54	pc	75	55	pc
Fargo	85	60	s	86	65	pc
Honolulu	88	75	s	87	77	pc
Houston	96	77	pc	99	78	s
Indianapolis	80	70	r	79	58	pc
Jacksonville	88	74	t	92	76	t
Kansas City	84	68	t	83	63	pc
Las Vegas	101	84	pc	105	82	pc
Little Rock	97	78	s	91	72	t
Los Angeles	85	67	pc	84	66	pc
Louisville	82	73	t	85	65	pc
Memphis	97	78	pc	89	72	t
Miami	94	80	pc	92	80	t
Millwaukee	77	64	c	75	63	pc
Minneapolis	84	64	s	84	63	s
Nashville	94	74	t	96	68	t
New Orleans	93	76	t	93	77	s
New York City	80	71	c	82	66	t
Oklahoma City	99	73	pc	91	70	c
Omaha	85	65	pc	84	65	c
Philadelphia	85	72	pc	82	68	t
Phoenix	108	85	s	101	83	c
Portland, ME	73	62	pc	79	59	c
Providence	76	67	pc	82	63	c
Raleigh	92	73	pc	85	69	t
Rapid City	98	60	pc</			