



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

---

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**JULY 22, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN ARRESTED, INDICTED FOR INSURANCE FRAUD**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Kansas City, Mo., man has been indicted by a federal grand jury in a scheme to defraud insurance companies by falsely reporting that vehicles were stolen.

**Wiled Mahdi Al-Aqaili**, 38, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in a seven-count indictment returned under seal by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on July 22, 2003. That indictment was unsealed and made public today upon **Al-Aqaili's** arrest and initial court appearance. **Al-Aqaili** is an Iraqi national who received United States citizenship in March 2003.

According to the indictment, **Al-Aqaili** owned a 1994 maroon Chevrolet Suburban, covered by an insurance policy with Farmers Insurance that provided for compensation in the event of theft, and a 1994 Infinity J30, covered by an insurance policy with Safeco Insurance that provided for compensation in the event of theft. The indictment alleges that **Al-Aqaili** attempted obtain money from those insurance companies by falsely claiming that the vehicles were stolen.

The federal indictment alleges that **Al-Aqaili** persuaded an unnamed person to hide the Suburban, and on March 26, 2002, the vehicle was abandoned in a wooded lot in eastern Independence, Mo. The next day, **Al-Aqaili** allegedly reported the vehicle stolen to the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and to Farmers Insurance. According to the indictment, **Al-Aqaili** received a total of \$9,223.50 from Farmers Insurance.

The federal indictment alleges that **Al-Aqaili** persuaded an unnamed person to dispose of the Infinity, and on Jan. 7, 2003, **Al-Aqaili** instructed that person to burn the vehicle. The next day, **Al-Aqaili** allegedly reported the vehicle stolen to the North Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and, on Jan. 13, 2003, to Safeco Insurance. According to the indictment, **Al-Aqaili** paid this person a total of \$250 to dispose of the vehicle.

Counts One through Seven of the federal indictment allege a series of mailings conducted in the course of the alleged scheme to defraud the two insurance companies. Each count of mail fraud involves a separate instance in which correspondence or a check was deposited in the mail for delivery by the U.S. Postal Service.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the federal indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney William L. Meiners. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the North Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

\*\*\*\*\*

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)