



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN CONVICTED OF ARMED BANK ROBBERY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a man, who lived in both Pittsburg, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo., was convicted by a federal jury of the armed robbery of Winterset State Bank.

Damon Beaman, 29, of Kansas City, Mo., was found guilty of armed bank robbery on Jan. 23, 2002. He was initially charged with the crime in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on July 9, 2002. **Beaman** was found guilty of robbing Winterset State Bank.

Following **Beaman's** trial, Graves said, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City deliberated about seven hours before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., ending a trial that began January 21, 2003.

According to Graves, **Beaman** robbed Winterset State Bank, 666 Red Bridge Road, Kansas City, Mo., on June 15, 2002.

“During the offense, **Beaman** and his accomplice viciously pistol-whipped three employees at the bank,” Graves said.

Graves said that two men burst through the east entrance of Winterset State Bank at about 10:50 a.m. on June 15, 2002. The men, who were both wearing pantyhose-type masks and carrying semi-automatic handguns, ran toward the bank tellers, vaulted the teller counter and ordered the tellers to get on the floor. The government argued in court that one of the men struck three tellers with a handgun while demanding money and threatening to shoot them. A shot was also fired inside the bank during the robbery.

An anonymous call to the Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers TIPS hot line identified **Beaman** as the bank robber depicted in the photographs displayed on a television newscast.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Matt J. Whitworth. It was

investigated by Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, Pittsburg, Kan., Police Department and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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