



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTHLAND MAN SENTENCED FOR KC-NORTH BANK ROBBERY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Northland man was sentenced in federal court today for robbing the Bank of Weston in North Kansas City.

John D. Clutts, 41, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to two years and three months in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 24, 2003, Clutts pleaded guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with robbing the Bank of Weston, 6510 N.W. Prairie View Road, Kansas City, Mo., of \$16,527 on Dec. 5, 2002. The indictment was returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 18, 2002, in Kansas City.

Clutts initially was charged in a criminal complaint filed in Kansas City on Dec. 6, 2002. According to an affidavit filed in support of the federal criminal complaint, **Clutts** approached a bank teller at approximately 10:15 a.m. on Dec. 5, 2002, and demanded she place money in a white plastic trash bag he placed on the counter. **Clutts** also demanded money from two other tellers, the complaint alleges, holding open the trash bag while they provided him with money from the drive-up teller drawers.

An off-duty Kansas City, Mo., police officer was working at a nearby credit union, Graves said, and observed **Clutts** enter and leave the bank. The off-duty officer watched **Clutts** run from the bank, and after learning from the teller that the bank had just been robbed, chased **Clutts** about half a block to a nearby parking lot, where he made the arrest. At the time of the arrest, Graves said, **Clutts** had a trash bag containing cash under his coat and a BB gun/air pistol tucked into the waistline of his pants.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mike Warner. It was investigated by

the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the 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