



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOPLIN MAN INDICTED FOR COUNTERFEITING \$20 BILL

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Joplin, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for counterfeiting a \$20 federal reserve note.

Patrick M. Connelly, 53, of Joplin, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Springfield.

The federal indictment alleges that **Connelly** falsely made, forged and counterfeited a \$20 bill between May 20, 2002, and May 30, 2002, in Jasper and Newton counties of Missouri.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in today's indictment is simply an accusation and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge 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 Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the United States Secret Service and the Joplin, 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