

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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MEDIA ALERT:

COURT ORDERS NOTICE OF COURTNEY RESTITUTION PUBLISHED IN KC STAR

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that *The Kansas City Star* will publish a notice with restitution information for victims of former Kansas City pharmacist Robert R. Courtney. The notice will appear for three consecutive Wednesdays, starting tomorrow.

"We are doing our best to identify and notify the victims of Robert Courtney's drugdilution scheme and help them receive their restitution," Graves said. "Unfortunately, the records of the Research Medical Tower Pharmacy are incomplete. We hope that, if there are victims whom our office has not identified, they will see the notice published in the newspaper and respond to the court."

U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith included the publication of the newspaper notice in his restitution order on Feb. 10, 2003. Under that order, patients (or surviving family members) who received cancer medications from Courtney's pharmacy must submit their claims by April 29, 2003 in order to qualify for restitution. The court's order provides that each victim receive an equal portion of restitution, although victims will be permitted to argue that special circumstances may warrant a larger share.

The notice will be published in *The Kansas City Star*. Copies of the claim form are available from the office of the District Court Clerk on the first floor of the Charles Evans Whitaker Federal Courthouse, 400 E. Ninth Street. A claim form may also be obtained on-line at the court's Web site, at www.mow.uscourts.gov, or by calling the District Court Clerk's office at (816) 512-5192 to obtain information about having a claim form mailed.

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