



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PLEASANT HILL MAN INDICTED FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced a Pleasant Hill, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for defrauding the Social Security Administration.

**Mark Deperalta**, 42, of Pleasant Hill, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury today in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Deperalta** was fraudulently receiving payments under the provision of the Social Security Administration Act dealing with Disability Insurance Benefits Payments from February 1997 and May 1999.

The indictment alleges that **Deperalta** concealed the fact that he was not eligible for the payments while he was employed at R and D Tools, located in Lee's Summit, Mo. His employment with the company would make him ineligible to receive the benefits, Graves explained.

The federal indictment also alleges that from March 2000 until November 2000, **Deperalta** again concealed the fact that he was not eligible for the payments while he was employed at High Quality Plastics, located in Pleasant Hill.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney D. Michael Green. It was investigated by the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the 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.

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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  
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