



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUFFALO MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN MAIL

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Buffalo, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegal possession of stolen mail matter.

Jason Eugene Durgan, 32, of Buffalo, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr to one year and six months in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Durgan** to pay \$3,215.92 in restitution.

On Nov. 15, 2002, **Durgan** pleaded guilty to the indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield on Oct. 9, 2002. **Durgan** admitted that he received stolen business checks that had been deposited by an employee of Essary Construction in a letter box at the post office in Springfield, Graves said. **Durgan** agreed to cash the checks and split the proceeds, Graves added, and actually did cash six of the checks, totalling \$2,391.03, in Greene, Polk and Dallas counties.

Durgan also admitted to taking boxes of blank checks from two mail boxes in Urbana, Mo., in late July 2002. **Durgan** forged several of the checks, Graves said, and cashed them for a total of \$824.89.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. The case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, the Polk County Sheriff's Department, and the Springfield, 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

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