



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEFENDANT INDICTED FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN CORVETTE

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a defendant was indicted by a federal grand jury today for being in possession of stolen property.

Willie B. Franklin, 27, address unknown, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. The indictment alleges that **Franklin** was in possession of a 2002 Chevrolet Corvette that had been transported in interstate commerce, from the state of Florida to Missouri, after having been stolen.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and is 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 was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service 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

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow