



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national was indicted by a federal grand jury today for illegally re-entering the United States after having been previously deported.

Martin Garcia-Lopez, 46, of Mexico, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

The federal indictment alleges that **Garcia-Lopez** was found in Webster County, Mo., on July 21, 2003, after having been deported from the United States. **Garcia-Lopez** was previously deported after being convicted of felony stealing.

Garcia-Lopez was originally charged in a federal criminal complaint filed on Aug. 19, 2003, in Springfield.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Garcia-Lopez** was deported from the United States on Dec. 13, 1994, and Sept. 24, 1997, from Otay Mesa, Calif., and Hidalgo, Texas, respectively.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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.

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