

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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CARTHAGE FELON INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

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

Douglas M. Gollhofer, 31, of Carthage, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting today in Springfield.

The federal indictment alleges that **Gollhofer** was in possession four firearms on Jan. 26, 2003, in Jasper County, Mo. The indictment alleges that he possessed a .308 caliber Winchester rifle with ammunition, a .22 caliber Remington rifle, a .12 gauge Magtech shotgun, and a .12 gauge Harrington and Richardson shotgun. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Gollhofer** has a 1993 criminal felony conviction for stealing, a 1995 criminal felony conviction for burglary and stealing, a 1997 criminal felony conviction for receiving stolen property, and a 1997 criminal felony conviction for second degree burglary and stealing.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in today's indictment is simply an accusation and 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 is being prosecuted by Deputy United States Attorney Michael A. Jones. It was investigated by the Carthage, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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