



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

JANUARY 21, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC AREA MAN INDICTED FOR CASHING COUNTERFEIT PAYCHECKS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City area man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for passing counterfeit paychecks at several local banks.

Eddie L. Hayes, 52, no known address, was charged in a six-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Kansas City.

The indictment alleges that, on six separate occasions, **Hayes** cashed or attempted to cash a number of checks purporting to be made payable to him by Transystems Corporation, 2400 Pershing Road, Kansas City, Mo., an engineering consulting firm. **Hayes** cashed or attempted to cash these checks at various locations of Commerce Bank of Kansas City. The indictment alleges that the checks were counterfeit, and that **Hayes** never worked for Transystems Corporation, nor did Transystems Corporation owe any money to **Hayes**.

Each of the six counts contained in the indictment alleges that **Hayes** cashed or attempted to cash counterfeit payroll checks at various Commerce Bank locations. The checks ranged from \$4,622.49 to \$4,967.13, according to the indictment, and were cashed between Feb. 8 and 12, 2002, at Commerce Bank locations at 922 Walnut, 110 NW Barry Road and 5801 NW Barry Road, all in Kansas City, Mo.; 12829 S. 71 Highway in Grandview; and at 17601 E. 24 Highway and 2915 S. Noland Road, both in Independence. The six counterfeit checks that are alleged in the indictment to have been cashed or attempted to be cashed total \$28,753.34.

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.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Daniel Stewart. The case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service.

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