



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

DECEMBER 16, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROSECUTORS ANNOUNCE INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN FEDERAL, STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, and Michael Sanders, Jackson County, Mo., Prosecutor, announced today a plan to continue cooperative efforts in the Project Ceasefire program.

Two Jackson County prosecutors have been cross-designated to work in the United States Attorney's Office. Jackson County assistant prosecutors Angela C. Hasty and Stephan Hughes will assist in the United States Attorney's Office.

"This additional cooperation between our offices will help promote the continued safety of our residents," Graves said.

As the news Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys develop and prosecute cases in their new capacity at the federal level. These prosecutors will work with Project Ceasefire, the district's local initiative that targets felons illegally in possession of firearms.

"This opportunity will allow these Jackson County assistant prosecutors to cross jurisdictional lines to enforce the law where the penalty is most appropriate," Graves said. "As a result, they will gain experience at the federal level, while also assisting our office in the prosecution of firearms crimes."

Similar partnerships between the United States Attorney's Office and state prosecutor's offices also have been formed in other areas of the Western District of Missouri.

"We value the good relationships we have with state prosecutors in our district," Graves said. "In fact, we also recently developed a similar partnership with the prosecutor in Platte County, Mo."

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