

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

MARCH 13, 2003 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY TO ROBBING SPRINGFIELD BANK

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a defendant pleaded guilty today to robbing Great Southern Bank in Springfield.

Larry Drew Jacques, 41, pleaded guilty before Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to robbing the Great Southern Bank, located at 1955 S. Campbell Ave., on Dec. 26, 2002.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Jacques** admitted that shortly after 4 p.m. on Dec. 26, 2002, dressed in a hooded sweat shirt, coat, gloves, sunglasses and a bandana pulled over his lower face, he approached a teller at the bank and ordered the teller to give him all the big bills in the vault. After the teller explained that the employees did not have access to the vault, the teller gave him \$1,714 from the teller drawer. **Jacques** left the bank and was arrested at 10 p.m., Dec. 27, 2002, on outstanding warrants.

As a result of **Jacques'** plea agreement, he could be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation 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