

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

## **TODD P. GRAVES**

OCTOBER 16, 2003 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SPRINGFIELD MAN INDICTED IN FIVE BANK ROBBERIES

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for robbing five Springfield banks, allegedly stealing nearly \$26,000 over a 13-month period.

**Santana D. Kirk**, 26, of Springfield, Mo., was charged in a five-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. Today's indictment replaces a criminal complaint filed against **Kirk** on Sept. 23, 2003.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Kirk** robbed Great Southern Bank on Feb. 21, 2002.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Kirk** robbed Countryside Bank on July 18, 2002, using an inoperable toy replica of a handgun.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Kirk** robbed Liberty Bank on July 25, 2002, using an inoperable toy replica of a handgun.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Kirk** robbed US Bank on Feb. 11, 2003, using an object that appeared to be a handgun.

Count Five of the federal indictment alleges that **Kirk** robbed US Bank on March 6, 2003, using an object that appeared to be a handgun.

According to the affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, **Kirk** allegedly stole amounts ranging from less than \$4,000 to nearly \$8,000 in each robbery, a total of nearly \$26,000.

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 Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

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Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
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