



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL LIVING IN KANSAS CITY SENTENCED FOR BEING ILLEGAL ALIEN IN POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican resident living in Kansas City was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm.

Guadalupe Longoria-Paez, 32, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to one year and three months in federal prison without parole.

On April 23, 2003, **Longoria-Paez** pleaded guilty to being an illegal alien from Mexico knowingly in possession of a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he was in possession of the firearm on March 4, 2003. It is illegal, Graves explained, for any illegal alien in the United States to possess any firearm or ammunition.

Longoria-Paez was originally charged in a federal criminal complaint filed in court on March 6, 2003, in Kansas City. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 2, 2003, in Kansas City.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, law enforcement officers discovered the firearm located in **Longoria-Paez's** bedroom during a search of his residence.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the 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.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco

and Firearms.

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