



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 10, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SECOND DEFENDANT CHARGED WITH SMUGGLING ILLEGAL ALIENS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a second defendant was charged in federal court today with illegally transporting illegal aliens within the United States.

Julio Martinez-Resendiz, 36, a citizen of Mexico, was charged this morning in a criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Springfield. The criminal complaint alleges that **Martinez-Resendiz** illegally transported an illegal alien within the United States by means of a vehicle for the purpose of private financial gain.

In a separate criminal complaint filed on Dec. 8, 2003, **Raul Enriquez**, 27, a citizen of the United States, was also charged with illegally transporting an illegal alien within the United States.

Affidavits filed in support of the criminal complaints state that a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper stopped a 1998 Chevrolet Suburban for a traffic violation on Dec. 8, 2003. Upon inspecting the vehicle, the affidavit states, a law enforcement officer observed what he believed to be several undocumented aliens in the vehicle.

Enriquez, who was operating the vehicle, and 12 undocumented aliens – including **Martinez-Resendiz** – were then taken into custody. The affidavits allege that **Martinez-Resendiz** arranged for **Enriquez** to transport the undocumented aliens from Phoenix, Ariz., to Florida, and compensated **Enriquez** for driving the vehicle.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the complaints are simply accusations, and are not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

Both cases were investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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