



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NICARAGUAN MAN CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Nicaraguan man was charged in federal court today for illegally re-entering the United States.

Melvin Mendez-Valdivia, 31, of Nicaragua, is charged with being an alien who was found in the United States after having been previously deported, according to the criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Springfield.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Mendez-Valdivia** was found in Republic, Mo., on Feb. 6, 2003 after being deported from the United States in 1997.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the criminal complaint is simply an accusation, and is not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case was investigated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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

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