

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TWO MEXICAN MEN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Mexican men who have previously been deported from the United States were indicted by a federal grand jury today on separate and unrelated charges of illegally re-entering the United States.

* **Pedro Montelongo-Hernandez**, 27, of Mexico, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Montelongo-Hernandez** was deported from the United States subsequent to a conviction for conspiracy to distribute cocaine. According to the indictment, **Montelongo-Hernandez** was found at Carthage, Mo., on June 28, 2003.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Carthage, Mo., Police Department, the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Webb City, Mo., Police Department.

* **German Leyva-Chavez**, 24, of Mexico, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Leyva-Chavez** was deported from the United States subsequent to a conviction for forgery. According to the indictment, **Leyva-Chavez** was found at Jasper County, Mo., on June 17, 2003.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in today's indictments 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.

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