



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national pleaded guilty today to illegally re-entering the United States.

Miguel Moreno-Lopez, 36, of Mexico, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning in Jefferson City.

By pleading guilty, admitted that he was found on Aug. 27, 2003, in Callaway County, Mo., after having been previously deported from the United States. **Moreno-Lopez** was deported from the United States on June 20, 2003, at Nogales, Ariz.

Moreno-Lopez was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 5, 2003, in Jefferson City, Mo.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Moreno-Lopez** may be subject to a sentence of up to two years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine of up to \$250,000. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the St. Louis, Mo., Police Department.

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