



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER ARMORED CAR EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING MORE THAN \$200,000

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former employee of an armored vehicle business in Springfield pleaded guilty in federal court today to stealing, and aiding others in stealing, more than \$200,000 from three local banks.

Stephanie Fuller Moreno, 37, of Springfield, Mo., waived her right to a grand jury indictment and pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to a federal information that charges her with stealing, and aiding others in stealing, from three federally insured banks.

Moreno admitted that she stole, and aided others in stealing, more than \$200,000 that belonged to UMB Bank, Bank of America and Guaranty Federal Savings Bank from November 1999 to Nov. 4, 2002. During that time, Graves explained, **Moreno** was employed by PSI Armored Company, Inc., which operates an armored vehicle business. Among the services PSI provides is to load currency in automatic teller machines owned by several financial institutions.

Moreno was hired as a vault manager for PSI's Springfield facility in June 1997, Graves said. In that position, she was responsible for the vault and currency cabinet, where PSI placed money that had been transferred from its institutional customers to be loaded into their ATMs.

A surprise audit of PSI's vault in Springfield was conducted on Oct. 29, 2002. When UMB Bank informed PSI officials that the count of its currency in PSI's vault was short, **Moreno** was directed to fax her paperwork to the PSI office in Topeka, Kan. Instead, Graves said, **Moreno** left work without explanation and never returned.

The aggregate loss to the three financial institutions as a result of **Moreno's** criminal conduct was approximately \$207,080.

As a result of today's guilty plea, **Moreno** could be subject to a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. Her 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 Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Federal 'Bureau of Investigation.

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