



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**JANUARY 24, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **COUNTRY MUSIC SINGER PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGALLY RECEIVING WELFARE BENEFITS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Florida man pleaded guilty today to receiving disability benefits, food stamps and Medicaid benefits to which he was not entitled.

**Conrad Doyle Morris**, 59, of Largo, Florida, waived his right to a grand jury indictment and pleaded guilty to a federal information that charges him with the theft of public funds. **Morris** is a country music singer who has been performing around the country and sells his music CDs at several local stores, Graves said. Before moving to Florida, he was formerly associated with D's Music, a music equipment and repair shop in Blue Springs, Mo.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Morris** admitted that he was overpaid for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits from the Social Security Administration between April 1992 through January 2002, and that he was overpaid for food stamp and medical assistance benefits under the Medicaid program from May 1992 through March 2002. During that time, Graves said, **Morris** illegally received \$46,678.19 in disability benefits, \$3,351 in food stamp benefits, and \$63,126.23 in Medicaid benefits – a total of \$113,155.42 in federal and state benefits.

Under the terms of his plea agreement, **Morris** agreed to make restitution to the Social Security Administration in the amount of \$46,678.19 and to make restitution in the amount of \$66,477.23 to the Missouri Department of Social Services, Division of Budget and Finance.

**Morris** was not entitled to those benefits, Graves explained, because of his relationship with his girlfriend. **Morris** admitted that he failed to disclose his true relationship with his girlfriend, knowing that the circumstances of their relationship would make him ineligible for those benefits.

As a result of **Morris'** guilty plea, he may subject to a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled sometime after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Frances Reddis. The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Social Security Administration Office of Inspector General, and the Missouri Department of Social Services.

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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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)