



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ST. JOSEPH WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK FRAUD**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a St. Joseph woman pleaded guilty in federal court today to defrauding her employer Pony Express Community Bank.

**Connie Sue Murphy**, 35, of St. Joseph, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to a one-count information charging her with bank fraud.

By pleading guilty, **Murphy** admitted that, as an employee of Pony Express Community Bank, she embezzled about \$73,781 from the bank between Aug. 10, 2000, until Nov. 14, 2002, in St. Joseph.

She admitted that she took the funds by withdrawing money from customer accounts, withdrawing funds from the bank's correspondent accounts with other banks and taking money from the vault and from her teller drawer.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Murphy** may be subject to a sentence of up to 30 years in federal prison without parole, a fine of up to \$1 million and an order of restitution. 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 Frances Reddis. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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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

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