



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN COUNTERFEITING CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to participating in a conspiracy to pass counterfeit money.

Deandre Pointer, 31, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Pointer** admitted that he arranged the purchase of approximately \$4,000 of counterfeit bills on Aug. 4, 2001, on behalf of co-defendant **Demetric E. Johnson**, 26, of Kansas City, among others. **Pointer** invited **Johnson** to come to his residence, Graves said, where **Johnson** purchased \$100, \$50 and \$20 bills from another person.

Pointer also admitted that **Johnson** called him on Aug. 7, 2001, and asked if he could obtain more counterfeit money. **Pointer** made those arrangements, Graves said, and was on his way to meet **Johnson** to conduct the transaction when his vehicle was stopped by Kansas City, Mo., police officers. Law enforcement officers recovered \$3,420 in counterfeit bills at the time of **Pointer's** arrest, Graves said.

On Dec. 5, 2003, **Johnson** pleaded guilty to participating in a conspiracy to pass counterfeit money. **Johnson** admitted that, after purchasing the counterfeit bills at **Pointer's** residence, he used the counterfeit money to purchase money orders at the King Foods Superstore at 3401 East Red Bridge, Kansas City, Mo. At the time, Graves said, **Johnson** was employed as a cashier at the store.

Under federal statutes, **Pointer** and **Johnson** could each be subject to a sentence of up to five years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine 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.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney D. Michael Green. It was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and the Kansas City, 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