



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican citizen was sentenced in federal court today for illegally re-entering the United States.

Jesus Antonio Rodriguez, 34, who has an address in Dallas, Texas, but is a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this afternoon to two years in federal prison without parole.

On July 23, 2003, **Rodriguez** pleaded guilty to illegally re-entering the United States. By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Rodriguez** admitted that he was found on May 27, 2003, at Fort Leonard Wood in Pulaski County, Mo., after having been previously deported from the United States. **Rodriguez** was previously deported after being convicted of burglary of a vehicle.

Rodriguez was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 4, 2003, in Springfield.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Monroe and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Tonya L. Blackwell. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Social Security Administration's Office of the Inspector General and the Army Criminal Investigation Division.

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