

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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THREE MEXICAN NATIONALS CHARGED WITH VIOLATING IMMIGRATION, FALSE IDENTIFICATION LAWS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that three Mexican nationals were charged in federal court today for violating United States immigration and false identification laws.

*Pablo Ruiz-Martinez, 28, of Mexico, was charged in a criminal complaint filed this afternoon in Springfield, Mo., with possessing a counterfeit Social Security card and a counterfeit permanent resident alien card on May 27, 2003, at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

*Jesus Antonio Rodriguez, 33, of Mexico, was charged in a criminal complaint filed this afternoon in Springfield with being an alien who was found in the United States on May 27, 2003, after having been previously deported. According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, Rodriguez was found at Fort Leonard Wood in Pulaski County, Mo., after having been deported from Laredo, Texas, in 1998.

*Ariel Rodriguez-Rodriguez, 29, of Mexico, was charged in a criminal complaint filed this afternoon in Springfield with using a false Social Security number on May 27, 2003, at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the criminal complaints are simply accusations and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

These cases are being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Tonya Blackwell and Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Monroe. The cases were investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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