

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

MARCH 18, 2003 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY RE-ENTERING THE UNITED STATES

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally reentering the United States.

Javier Salas-Villegas, 33, a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole. That sentence, Graves added, is consecutive to a sentence of three months in federal prison without parole for violating conditions of his probation on charges in the Southern District of Texas.

On Nov. 20, 2002, **Salas-Villegas** pleaded guilty to reentering the United States illegally. Graves explained that **Salas-Villegas** was deported from the United States after a criminal felony conviction for aggravated assault. On Sept. 19, 2002, **Salas-Villegas** was found in Greene County, Mo., without having applied for admission to the United States.

The case was investigated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

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