



# 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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**JULY 28, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **COLUMBIA MAN SENTENCED FOR IDENTITY THEFT**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia man was sentenced in federal court today for identity theft and wire fraud.

**Bryan Daniel Sims**, 30, of Columbia, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to two years and three months in federal prison without parole.

On April 14, 2003, **Sims** pleaded guilty to two charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 8, 2002, in Jefferson City.

By pleading guilty, **Sims** admitted that he committed wire fraud on July 18, 2001, in Boone County, Mo., by causing a transfer of funds between one bank account and another from Boone County to South Dakota. He also admitted to using the identification of another person to illegally obtain \$1,000 or more.

**Sims** admitted that he illegally obtained and cashed checks drawn on his landlord's American Express credit card account without her consent. The transactions took place on June 15, 2001, and June 25, 2001, and were in the amounts of \$745, \$1,200 and \$670.

**Sims** also opened a Wells Fargo personal bank account in the name of his employer, Graves said. He then began transferring money out of his employer's business account into the fraudulent account on July 11, 2001. The initial amount of money transferred was \$7,000. **Sims** transferred money again from his employer's business account to the fraudulent personal account on July 18, 2001, in the amount of \$110,000, Graves said. Several other transactions also were made, including transfers in the amounts of \$10,000, on July 31, 2001, and \$25,000, on Aug. 1, 2001.

By pleading guilty, **Sims** also admitted that he opened another checking account using another person's identity on July 15, 2002, at First National Bank in Columbia, Graves said.

Afterward, he began depositing and cashing checks from a closed account he had at Lindell Bank in St. Peters, Mo.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. The case was investigated by the Social Security Administration, the Columbia, Mo., Police Department and the United States Postal Inspector.

\*\*\*\*\*

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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)