



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TWO SPRINGFIELD MEN SENTENCED FOR PAWN SHOP BURGLARIES**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that two Springfield, Mo., men have been sentenced in federal court for stealing firearms from two local pawn shops.

**Joseph A. Smiley**, 21, of Springfield, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner on Feb. 24, 2003, to 10 years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Smiley** to pay \$6,254.29 in restitution, for which he is jointly and severally liable.

**Justin D. Bryan**, 19, of Springfield, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner on Feb. 24, 2003, to six years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Bryan** to pay \$6,254.29 in restitution, for which he is jointly and severally liable.

On Oct. 15, 2002, **Smiley** and **Bryan** pleaded guilty to separate counts of the indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield on May 1, 2002.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Smiley** admitted that he drove a stolen 1984 Chevrolet Scottsdale flatbed truck into the north wall of the Gunsmoke Gun and Pawn building at 4305 W. Chestnut Expressway, Springfield, Mo., at about 4 a.m. on Aug. 7, 2001. **Smiley** was then able to enter the pawn shop, Graves said, and steal several firearms. The stolen flatbed truck would not start, according to **Smiley**, so it was left in the building. **Smiley** said he was paid one gram of methamphetamine for his role in the theft. **Smiley** also admitted to his role in a robbery at Garner's Gun and Pawn on Aug. 5, 2001.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Bryan** admitted that he entered Garner's Gun and Pawn, 2743 W. Kearney, Springfield, Mo., through an upstairs window at about 3 a.m. on Aug. 5, 2001. An alarm went off, according to **Bryan**, and he left the store with a duffle bag containing several handguns. **Bryan** said he was paid with "dope" for his role in the theft. **Bryan** also admitted to

his role in the robbery of Gunsmoke Gun and Pawn on Aug. 7, 2001.

In determining **Smiley's** sentence, Graves added, the court considered his prior felony convictions as relevant conduct. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Smiley** has two 1999 criminal felony convictions for auto theft in Greene County, Mo., and a 1999 criminal felony conviction for receiving stolen property in Greene County, Mo.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

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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

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