

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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JEFFERSON CITY MAN INDICTED ON COCAINE CHARGES

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Jefferson City, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possession and distribution of cocaine.

Thomas Breck Stratton, 29, of Jefferson City, Mo., was charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Jefferson City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Stratton** distributed, and was in possession with the intent to distribute, 500 grams or more of cocaine on July 17 and 18, 2001, in Cole County, Mo., and in Callaway County, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in today's indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, MUSTANG (the Mid-Missouri Unified Strike Force and Narcotics Group) and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

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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