



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING CREDIT UNION'S CASH VAULT, \$164,473

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty today to burglarizing a federally insured credit union and removing its cash vault, which contained \$164,473.

James A. Yokum, 33, of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to burglarizing United Consumers Credit Union, located at 551 Cambridge in Kansas City, and removing its cash vault, on Sept. 13, 2002.

Yokum was originally charged with the burglary in a criminal complaint filed on June 13, 2003, in Kansas City. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on July 8, 2003, in Kansas City.

Yokum committed the burglary with three other individuals. During the burglary, Graves said, the four individuals communicated with two-way radios and removed the credit union's video surveillance tapes during the burglary.

In preparation of the burglary, **Yokum** and the other individuals involved in the burglary stole a dolly to carry the safe and a white Budget van to transport the safe. The van was abandoned near Interstate 435 following the burglary. It was later discovered and contained the dolly and the cash vault, Graves said.

Yokum received approximately \$40,000 for his participation in the burglary, Graves said.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Yocum** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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