



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FELON INDICTED FOR FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATION**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former Joplin, Mo., man has been indicted by a federal grand jury for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

**Edward L. Raifsnider**, 45, formerly of Joplin, was charged in a two-count superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City. Today's indictment replaces an indictment that was returned on May 8, 2003, by adding a second count of being a felon in possession of four additional firearms.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Raifsnider** was in possession of a Colt .25-caliber semi-automatic handgun on Jan. 11, 2003, in Barry County, Mo. Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Raifsnider** was in possession of a Browning 12-gauge shotgun, a Winchester .22-caliber rifle, a Remington 20-gauge shotgun and a Savage Arms .22-caliber rifle on Aug. 12, 2004, in Taney County, Mo.

Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Raifsnider** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for use of a false Social Security number; 1993 criminal felony convictions for four counts of breaking and entering in Hamilton County, Ohio; 1989 criminal felony convictions for seven counts of theft and two counts of passing a bad check in Hamilton County; two 1988 criminal felony convictions for burglary and two for stealing in Maries County, Mo.; 1988 criminal felony convictions for burglary and stealing in Pulaski County, Mo.; three 1988 criminal felony convictions for burglary in Phelps County, Mo.; a 1985 criminal felony conviction for forgery in Wabash County, Ill.; a 1985 criminal felony conviction for violation of bail bond in White County, Ill.; 1982 criminal felony convictions for two counts of theft in White County; a 1982 criminal felony conviction for escape in Hamilton County; 1982 criminal felony convictions for three counts of obtaining money by false pretenses in Stephens County, Okla.; a 1982 criminal

felony conviction for obtaining cash by bogus check in Carter County, Okla.; a 1982 criminal felony conviction for forgery in Hamilton County; a 1980 criminal felony conviction for escape in Multnomah County, Ore.; and a 1980 criminal felony conviction for theft in Hamilton County.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the U.S. Marshal Service.

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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

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