



NEWS RELEASE

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FORMER KC MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE FOR 1998 BANK ROBBERY IN WHICH ACCOMPLICE WAS KILLED

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Steve Hill, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former Kansas City man was sentenced today to life plus five years in prison for his role in a February 1998 armed robbery of a Kansas City bank in which an alleged accomplice was shot and killed by an off-duty police officer.

Michael E. McCarthy, 45, will not be eligible for parole from the sentence imposed today by Chief U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple. **McCarthy** must also pay restitution of \$23,532, the court ordered.

On January 12, 2000, a trial jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., found **McCarthy** guilty of one count of armed bank robbery and one count of use of a firearm in a crime of violence, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Mike Warner, who prosecuted the case.

McCarthy's life sentence for the robbery is mandatory under the federal "Three Strikes" law, as a result of his two prior felony convictions for armed bank robbery, Warner said. The consecutive five-year sentence for the gun conviction is also mandatory, under a separate federal statute, Warner said.

McCarthy was convicted of being one of three men involved in the February 23, 1998, armed robbery of Mercantile Bank at 200 N.E. Vivion Road in Kansas City, Mo., Warner said.

According to evidence presented at trial, witnesses said that two men wearing ski masks and carrying handguns entered the bank and ordered tellers to get down on the floor. After taking money from teller drawers, the robbers exited the bank, but one of the men--later identified as Steven Boggues-El--was shot and killed on the sidewalk outside the bank, Warner said. The other robber, **McCarthy**, ran to a waiting car, driven by a third man, and fled the scene.

(MORE)

LIFE SENTENCE

Page 2 of 2

The driver of the getaway car remains unidentified and at large, Warner said.

McCarthy was initially charged in connection with the robbery on April 7, 1999, after some dandruff from a stocking cap recovered from the abandoned getaway car was found to match a sample of his blood, Warner said. **McCarthy** was already in custody at that time in a federal prison in Texas, as a result of his arrest for a parole violation.

The case was investigated by the FBI and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.
