



# News Release

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## **REPORT OF ARMED ROBBERY AT WESTERN IS A FALSE REPORT**

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —December 14, 2006— The report of an armed robbery at Missouri Western State University was a false report. There was not an armed robbery on Missouri Western’s campus last Thursday night, according to Jon Kelley, director of public safety.

“I am pleased that our public safety department was able to resolve this case so quickly. Western is a safe campus, and I am happy to report we still have a record of no armed robberies on campus,” reported Ron Olinger, vice president for financial planning and administration.

According to Kelley, witnesses who were with the victim at the time of the robbery report that a robbery did occur somewhere in St. Joseph, but not on Western’s campus. The case has been turned over to the St. Joseph Police Department for investigation.

“It is disappointing that the student was not truthful about this incident. The report unnecessarily worried others on campus. It also has hampered the investigation by not reporting the correct circumstances surrounding the robbery,” added Kelley.

The incident reported last Thursday evening was taken seriously by the entire campus, said Olinger. At the onset of the investigation the public safety department took precautions necessary to warn students and employees, actively pursued the investigation, and increased the presence of officers on campus.

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*Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.*