NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ONE DEFENDANT SENTENCED, ANOTHER PLEADS GUILTY IN METH, COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas man was sentenced and another pleaded guilty in federal court today for conspiring with others to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and five kilograms or more of cocaine.

Timothy Wade Chappell, 37, of Kansas, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to 10 years in federal prison without parole.

On Dec. 6, 2002, **Chappell** pleaded guilty to an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 1, 2002. By pleading guilty, **Chappell** admitted that he conspired with others to distribute the methamphetamine and cocaine between June 1, 1999, and Oct. 1, 2002.

Co-defendant **Lawrence D. Swift**, 41, of Kansas, also has pleaded guilty in this case. Swift admitted today that he also conspired with others to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and five kilograms or more of cocaine between June 1, 1999, and Oct. 1, 2002.

Lawrence's 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 U.S. Probation Office.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Valenti. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Overland Park, Kan., Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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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
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