



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DISTRIBUTING CRACK

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a man pleaded guilty in federal court today to distributing crack cocaine.

Carl Laverne Dudley, 42, of Columbia, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to distributing five grams or more of crack cocaine in Boone County, Mo.

By pleading guilty, **Dudley** admitted that he distributed crack cocaine on Sept. 12, 2002, in a parking lot at the Red Roof Inn in Columbia. He also admitted to selling crack cocaine on Sept. 20, 2002, and that he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine on Nov. 6, 2002. **Dudley** also was found in possession of crack cocaine at the time of his initial arrest on June 11, 2003, Graves said.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Dudley** may be subject to a sentence of up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a \$2 million fine. 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 Doug Shull. The case was investigated by MUSTANG, a multi-jurisdictional law enforcement task force, and the Columbia, Mo., Police Department and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

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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