



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

SECOND CO-DEFENDANT SENTENCED IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a second Kansas City, Kan., man was sentenced in federal court today for his involvement in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

Christopher D. Francis, 24, of Kansas City, Kan., was sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to five years in federal prison without parole for his role in the methamphetamine conspiracy.

On Nov. 21, 2002, **Francis** pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine on Aug. 22, 2002, in Independence, Mo.

Francis is the second convicted co-defendant to be sentenced in this case.

Co-defendant **Brian L. Harris**, 24, of Kansas City, Kan., also was sentenced for his involvement in the conspiracy.

Harris was sentenced to five years and one month in federal prison without parole on April 6, 2003. He pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy on Nov. 25, 2002.

Both defendants were originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 10, 2002, in Kansas City.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. The case was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department.

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