



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CO-DEFENDANT PLEAD GUILTY IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a co-defendants pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

Wayne J. Gregory, 41, of Worthington, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to conspiring to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Gregory** admitted that between Sept. 7, 2001, and Sept. 19, 2002, he conspired with others to manufacture methamphetamine. Gregory admitted that he supplied precursor materials, including the ingredient pseudoephedrine, to others for the purpose of manufacturing the methamphetamine.

Gregory admitted that he received methamphetamine in exchange for his services, Graves said.

As a result of the guilty pleas, **Gregory** is subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole. He also may be subject to a fine of up to \$1 million. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled sometime after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

Gregory is the fifth co-defendant to plead guilty in this case. Co-defendants **Cherie L. Johns**, 46, of Novinger, Mo., **Karanda R. Embry**, 22, of Novinger, **David L. Mullin**, 22, of Kirksville, Mo., and **Edward W. Robbins**, 52, of Queen City, Mo., also have pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the North Missouri Drug Task Force, the Adair County, Mo., Sheriff's

Department, the Putnam County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Schuyler County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Kirksville, Mo., Police Department, the Knox County Sheriff's Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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