



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JURY CONVICTS INDEPENDENCE MAN IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that an Independence, Mo. man has been convicted by a federal jury for his role in a conspiracy with his brother to manufacture methamphetamine at his home, by using a tank of anhydrous ammonia hidden at a local park.

Timothy W. Hines, also known as Peg Leg, 43, of Independence, Mo., was found guilty on Aug. 26, 2003, of conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and of possession of pseudoephedrine for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine.

On May 9, 2001, **Timothy Hines** made several purchases of boxes of cold pills containing pseudoephedrine at the Walgreen's store on 23rd Street in Independence, Graves said, with the intention that the pseudoephedrine would be used to manufacture methamphetamine. **Timothy Hines** utilized an anhydrous ammonia tank hidden at Landau Park in Independence to manufacture methamphetamine.

"We intend to seek a sentence of life imprisonment for this defendant," Graves said. "He is a chronic offender who endangered children to cook meth.

"In addition to the health and safety hazards that are always created by those who manufacture meth," Graves added, "**Timothy Hines** further endangered the public by storing and using an anhydrous ammonia tank at a public park."

Following **Timothy Hines**' trial, Graves said, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City deliberated about two hours before returning the guilty verdict to U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith, ending a two-day trial that began Aug. 25, 2003.

On Feb. 18, 2002, co-defendant **Randy S. Hines**, 45, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., was sentenced

to five years and 10 months in federal prison without parole. **Randy Hines** is the brother of **Timothy Hines**. On Oct. 22, 2002, **Randy Hines** pleaded guilty to the indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on Jan. 17, 2002, charging him with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between May 9, 2001 and August 6, 2001.

As a result of his conviction, **Timothy Hines** could be subject to a sentence ranging from at least 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 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.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine Connelly. It was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Independence, Mo., Police Department, and the Metro Methamphetamine Task Force.

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