



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BROTHER SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON AFTER HIDING METH INGREDIENT AT LOCAL PARK

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for conspiring with his brother and others to manufacture methamphetamine.

Timothy W. Hines, also known as Peg Leg, 43, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to life in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 26, 2003, **Hines** was convicted by a federal jury on both counts of an indictment. The federal jury found him guilty of conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between May 9, 2001, and Aug. 6, 2001. The federal jury also found him guilty of possession of pseudoephedrine on May 9, 2001, knowing it would be used to manufacture methamphetamine.

During the course of the methamphetamine conspiracy, **Hines** worked with his brother to manufacture the methamphetamine by using a tank of anhydrous ammonia, which was hidden at Landau Park, Graves said. **Hines** also purchased boxes of pseudoephedrine at a Walgreen's store, located at 23rd Street in Independence, with the intention of using them to manufacture methamphetamine.

"Today's sentence reflects the seriousness of **Hines'** crime," Graves said. "**Hines** is a chronic offender who endangered the public by storing and using an anhydrous ammonia tank at Landau Park. As a result of this life sentence, our community will be safer, as well as, the children who play in that area."

Graves explained that **Hines'** sentence was determined based on his level of involvement in the methamphetamine conspiracy and on his prior criminal convictions. He previously has been convicted of illegal possession of a controlled substance, attempt to manufacture a

controlled substance and selling marijuana.

Timothy W. Hines, and his brother **Randy S. Hines**, 55, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., were both charged with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 17, 2002, in Kansas City.

Randy Hines pleaded guilty to the indictment on Oct. 22, 2002. On Feb. 18, 2002, he was sentenced to five years and 10 months in federal prison without parole. By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Randy Hines** also admitted that he conspired to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine using a tank of anhydrous ammonia hidden in Landau Park.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. 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