



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KANSAS CITY MAN SENTENCED FOR DISTRIBUTING MORE THAN 50 GRAMS OF CRACK COCAINE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced today for distributing more than 50 grams of crack cocaine.

Jason L. Houcks, 24, was sentenced this afternoon by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright to four years in federal prison without parole.

On May 7, 2002, **Houcks** pleaded guilty to possessing 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. **Houcks** admitted that he was in possession of the crack cocaine on March 9, 2001.

Houcks is one of two co-defendants originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on April 11, 2001. Co-defendant **Rashaund L. Jackson**, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty to the charge on June 14, 2001. On May 17, 2002, he was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison without parole.

Houcks and **Jackson** worked together to distribute the crack cocaine.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lajuana M. Counts. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

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