

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

JANUARY 14, 2002 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO KC RESIDENTS SENTENCED FOR CRIMES RELATED TO METH DISTRIBUTION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two co-defendants were sentenced today for their involvement in the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine.

William E. Howell, 45, also known as Fireman Bill, of Kansas City, was sentenced this morning by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey to one year and three months in prison without parole. On Sept. 18, 2002, **Howell** pleaded guilty to maintaining a residence for the purpose of manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine.

Howell admitted to maintaining the meth lab at his Kansas City residence between August 1996 and March 2002.

Alicia M. Burks, 25, of Kansas City, was sentenced this morning by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey to one year and one day in prison without parole. On Sept. 18, 2002, **Burks** pleaded guilty to possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine.

At the time of **Burks'** arrest, the defendant was living in a bedroom at **Howell's** residence and was in possession of 12.24 grams of methamphetamine.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Powell and Assistant U.S. Attorney E. Eugene Harrison. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Metropolitan Methamphetamine Task Force, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and police departments in Independence, Sugar Creek, Blue Springs and Kansas City, Mo.

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