



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAYETTE, MO., MAN SENTENCED FOR VIOLATING FEDERAL FIREARMS, NARCOTICS LAWS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Fayette, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for possessing a sawed-off shotgun and being in possession of methamphetamine.

William Edward Jones III, 40, of Fayette, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to four years and three months in federal prison without parole.

On April 14, 2003, **Jones** pleaded guilty to an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 4, 2002. By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Jones** admitted that he was in possession of an F.I.E./ERA Brazil 12-gauge double-barrel shotgun with an 11 3/4-inch barrel. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal to be in possession of a shotgun with a barrel less than 18 inches. The shotgun was found in the second drawer of a two-drawer dresser in the kitchen of his residence during the execution of a search warrant on June 13, 2002.

Jones also pleaded guilty to being in possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine in Howard County. The methamphetamine, Graves said, was also found during the execution of the search warrant.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney C. Douglas Shull. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the North Central Missouri Drug Task Force, the Howard County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, and the New Franklin, Mo., Police Department.

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

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