



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TWO DEFENDANTS SENTENCED FOR THEIR ROLES IN TRAFFICKING MORE THAN 150 KILOS OF COCAINE IN KC AREA**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two co-conspirators were sentenced today for their roles in purchasing, selling and storing at least 150 kilograms of cocaine in the Kansas City area.

Graves described the cocaine conspiracy as one of the largest in the metropolitan area.

**Loren Harris**, 41, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to four years and six months in federal prison without parole.

On Dec. 16, 2002, **Harris** pleaded guilty to a superseding indictment charging him with conspiring to distribute cocaine. By pleading guilty, **Harris** admitted that between July 1999, and July 2001, he purchased and sold at least 150 kilograms of cocaine in the Kansas City metro area.

**Donovan C. Law, Sr.**, 41, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to one year and one day in federal prison without parole.

On Nov. 21, 2002, **Law** pleaded guilty to a superseding indictment charging him with maintaining a place for the distribution of cocaine. By pleading guilty, **Law** admitted that from March 2000 until January 2001, he used his residence as a place for other co-defendants to store and distribute cocaine.

Two other co-defendants in this conspiracy also have been convicted for their involvement to distribute mass quantities of cocaine in the area.

**Artis L. Jones**, 30, of Kansas City, was sentenced on May 23, 2002, to three years and seven months in federal prison without parole. On Jan. 4, 2002, he pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy.

**Robert L. Abbott**, 31, of Kansas City, Mo., was found guilty by a federal jury on Jan. 23, 2003. He was found guilty of conspiring to distribute nearly 200 kilograms of cocaine in the Kansas City area between July 1999 and July 2001.

**Abbott** was found guilty of both counts of the superseding indictment charging him as a conspirator in the cocaine ring.

According to Graves, these conspirators each had a hand in the distribution of almost \$2.5 million worth of cocaine in the metropolitan area.

“The cocaine they were dealing was purchased for about \$17,000 per kilogram and sold for between \$20,000 and \$22,000 per kilogram,” Graves said. “When the entire 200 kilograms is considered, this amounts to one of the largest cocaine rings in the region.”

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lajuana M. Counts and Assistant U.S. Attorney Mike Oliver. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)