

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TWO BLUE SPRINGS MEN SENTENCED FOR METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Blue Springs, Mo., men were sentenced today for their role in a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine at a Blue Springs residence and elsewhere.

Charles Morrison, 33, of Blue Springs, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to 19 years and 7 months in federal prison without parole.

In determining **Morrison's** sentence, Graves explained, the court considered the fact that he had led Cass County Sheriff's deputies on a high-speed chase to avoid being arrested. On Dec. 12, 2001, sheriff's deputies stopped **Morrison** after he purchased iodine crystals – an ingredient for manufacturing methamphetamine – at the Ramsey Feed Store in Harrisonville, Mo. **Morrison**, who was driving an IROC Chevy Camaro, accelerated from the traffic stop and fled from deputies in a high-speed chase that exceeded speeds of 100 miles per hour on 7 Highway. He was arrested by officers of the Blue Springs, Mo., Police Department on Dec. 20, 2001.

Brad E. Aliff, 33, of Blue Springs, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to 12 years in federal prison without parole.

Both **Morrison** and **Aliff** earlier pleaded guilty to a conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between March 25, 2001 and Jan. 15, 2002. Morrison entered a guilty plea on April 17, 2002; Aliff entered a guilty plea on Oct. 24, 2002.

Morrison and Aliff are among five co-defendants indicted by a federal grand jury on Jan. 15, 2002. Co-defendant Daniel W. Marx, 32, of Lee's Summit, was sentenced on Nov. 25, 2002, to 19 years and seven months in federal prison without parole. Co-defendant Michael W. Case, 32, of Blue Springs, pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy on Oct. 31, 2002, and awaits sentencing. Co-defendant Christopher Warren, 24, of Belton, Mo., pleaded guilty to his role in

the conspiracy on Dec. 6, 2002, and awaits sentencing.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark A. Miller. It was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force and the Blue Springs 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 www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow