



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

---

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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

---

**APRIL 10, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE COCAINE**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court to a conspiracy to distribute powder cocaine.

**Thomas J. Murillo**, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 17, 2002.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Murillo** admitted his role in a conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of powder cocaine between Jan. 1, 1996 and April 24, 2002. **Murillo** also agreed to forfeit to the United States a 2002 Cadillac Escalade, which he used to transport cocaine; \$967 that was in his possession at the time of his arrest, which was the proceeds of illegal narcotics transactions; and \$156,000, which represents the amount of proceeds obtained as a result of the conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

As a result of today's plea agreement, **Murillo** could be subject to a sentence of not less than five or more than 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million. **Murillo's** sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

\*\*\*\*\*

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)