



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**DECEMBER 30, 2003**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **COLUMBIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COCAINE, ECSTASY CONSPIRACY**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, ecstasy and powder cocaine.

**Albert William Newsome, Jr.**, 20, of Columbia, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, ecstasy and powder cocaine.

By pleading guilty, **Newsome** admitted that he conspired with others to distribute the narcotics as early as Aug. 27, 2002, until Aug. 29, 2002, in Boone County, Mo.

Specifically, **Newsome** admitted that he sold 16 tablets of ecstasy for \$320 and crack cocaine for \$250 on Aug. 27, 2002. He also admitted that he sold a quarter ounce of powder cocaine on Aug. 29, 2002; 5.26 grams of crack cocaine on Sept. 20, 2003, and that he possessed with intent to distribute 13.51 grams of cocaine on Sept. 27, 2003.

**Newsome** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 5, 2003, in Jefferson City.

Under federal law, **Newsome** may be subject to a maximum sentence of 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million. His 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 United States Probation Office.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney C. Douglas Shull. It was investigated by the Columbia, Mo., Police Department, the Callaway County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

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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)