



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTHERN MISSOURI CO-DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a second co-defendant in as many days pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

Martin L. Robbins, 28, of Greentop, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this afternoon to conspiring to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Robbins** admitted that between Sept. 7, 2001, and Sept. 19, 2002, he conspired with others to manufacture methamphetamine. Specifically, **Robbins** admitted that he supplied precursor materials to others for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine.

As a result of the guilty plea, **Robbins** is subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole. He also may be subject to a fine of up to \$1 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 U.S. Probation Office.

Robbins is the sixth co-defendant to plead guilty in this case.

Co-defendant **Wayne J. Gregory**, 41, of Worthington, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith on March 11, 2003.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Gregory** admitted that between Sept. 7, 2001, and Sept. 19, 2002, he, too, conspired with others to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. **Gregory** admitted that he also supplied precursor materials, including the ingredient pseudoephedrine, to others for the purpose of manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine.

Co-defendants **Cherie L. Johns**, 46, of Novinger, Mo., **Karanda R. Embry**, 22, of Novinger, **David L. Mullin**, 22, of Kirksville, Mo., and **Edward W. Robbins**, 52, of Queen City, Mo., also have pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the North Missouri Drug Task Force, the Adair County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Putnam County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Schuyler County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Kirksville, Mo., Police Department, the Knox County Sheriff's Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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