



# 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)

---

**JULY 29, 2003**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## NITRO UPDATE

### **FIRST OF SIX DAVIESS COUNTY RESIDENTS SENTENCED FOR CONSPIRING TO MANUFACTURE METH**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Daviess County, Mo., resident was sentenced in federal court today for conspiring to manufacture methamphetamine. The sentence, Graves said, is the result of work completed by the NITRO task force.

**Teresa A. Swigert**, 44, of Winston, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to five years and 10 months in federal prison without parole.

On May 2, 2003, **Swigert** pleaded guilty to her role in a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine between Aug. 17, 2002, and Nov. 2, 2002.

**Swigert** is the first of six defendants to be sentenced in this case. Five other defendants also have been convicted in the conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

**Marvin L. Archer**, 32, **Christie L. Phillips**, 33, **Billie L. Asher**, 31, and **James E. Hershberger**, 25, all of Gallatin, and **Lisa R. Carnahan**, 39, of Winston, Mo., each pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine between Aug. 17, 2002, and Nov. 2, 2002.

As a result of pleading guilty, each defendant faces up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million. Their sentences will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Sentencing hearings will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

All of the defendants were charged in an indictment returned under seal by a federal grand jury on Jan. 7, 2003, in Kansas City. The indictment was later unsealed and made public

upon the arrests and appearance of several co-defendants.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess Michaelson. The case was investigated by NITRO, the Northwest Missouri Team Response Operation. NITRO is a joint law enforcement effort by the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the 16-county northwest Missouri region. Also involved were the Daviess County Sheriff's Department and the Gallatin, Mo., 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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)