



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NITRO UPDATE
**TRENTON RESIDENT THIRD TO PLEAD GUILTY
TO INVOLVEMENT IN METH CONSPIRACY**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a third co-defendant pleaded guilty in federal court today to her involvement in a methamphetamine conspiracy. The guilty plea, Graves said, is the result of work completed by the NITRO Task Force.

Mary Lynn Thomas, 36, of Trenton, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to her role in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

By pleading guilty, **Thomas** admitted that she conspired to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and June 19, 2003.

Thomas is the third co-defendant to plead guilty in the methamphetamine manufacturing conspiracy.

Geary Peter Bordelon, 48, and **Joyce D. Swigart**, 53, both of Warrensburg, Mo., also have pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Under federal statutes, the defendants may be subject to sentences up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus fines up to \$4 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 United States Probation Office.

Each of the defendants was originally charged in a sealed indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 17, 2003, in Kansas City. The federal indictment was unsealed and made public upon the defendants' arrest and first appearance in court on Sept. 24, 2003, in Kansas City.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kate Mahoney. It was investigated by the Grundy County, Mo., Sheriff's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Trenton, Mo., Police Department and the NITRO Task Force. NITRO is the Northwest Missouri Interagency Team Response Operation, a joint law enforcement effort by the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the 16-county region.

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

