



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY TO COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two defendants pleaded guilty today to their role in a conspiracy to distribute crack and powder cocaine.

Jason L. Tuberville, 32, and **Robert Martin**, 32, both of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine from January 1999 to June 27, 2002.

Both co-defendants were indicted by a federal grand jury on July 10, 2002. Two more co-defendants – **Jose Alvarado Contreras**, 32, of Kansas City, Kansas; and **Veronica Elisabeth Moreno**, 29, of Long Beach, California – have already pleaded guilty to their role in a conspiracy to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine from January 1999 to June 27, 2002.

As a result of their plea agreements, each of these defendants could each be subject to a sentence ranging from at least 10 years in prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 million. The sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled sometime after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lajuana M. Counts and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Valenti. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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