

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Susan W. Brooks Southern District of Indiana

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TWO SENTENCED FOR METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that NYIEHA F. HOPKINS, 28, of Evansville, and LAURA WILLIAMS, 34, of Dallas, Texas were both sentenced late yesterday for their roles in a crystal methamphetamine trafficking conspiracy. HOPKINS was sentenced to 87 months imprisonment and WILLIAMS was sentenced to 120 months imprisonment by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young following their guilty pleas to conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine. This case was the result of a six-month investigation by the DEA, FBI, ATF, U.S. Marshal Service, and local law enforcement which culminated in the indictment of forty-four defendants for trafficking cocaine, cocaine base, methamphetamine, and marijuana in southern Indiana.

HOPKINS and WILLIAMS were members of a methamphetamine distribution organization that trafficked multiple pounds of methamphetamine from the Dallas, Texas area into Evansville in 2005 and 2006. In August and September 2006, law enforcement confiscated three pounds of crystal methamphetamine from members of this conspiracy. HOPKINS and WILLIAMS transported controlled substances from Texas into Evansville. On August 29, 2006, HOPKINS, WILLIAMS, and HOPKINS' two children, ages eight and three, were traveling in a rental car from Dallas, Texas to Evansville. The morning of August 29, 2006, police conducted a traffic stop on the rental car in Vanderburgh County. A subsequent police search of the rental car yielded approximately two pounds of crystal methamphetamine. HOPKINS and WILLIAMS were paid by other members of the methamphetamine trafficking conspiracy to transport the methamphetamine from Texas to drug traffickers in Evansville for further distribution. During the time frame of the conspiracy, HOPKINS and WILLIAMS made numerous drug runs for the organization. According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthias D. Onderak, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed 5 years supervised release following WILLIAMS' release from imprisonment and 3 years supervised release following HOPKINS' release from imprisonment.

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