



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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APRIL 14, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAYETTE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF FIREARM, METH

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Fayette, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and illegal possession of a firearm.

William Edward Jones, III, 40, of Fayette, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to two counts of a superseding indictment, which was returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 7, 2002 in Jefferson City.

By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Jones** admitted that on June 13, 2002, in Howard County, Mo., he possessed an F.I.E./ERA Brazil 12-gauge double barrel shotgun with a barrel of less than 18 inches in length. The firearm was not registered in **Jones'** name. **Jones** also admitted that on June 13, 2002, he possessed with an intent to distribute methamphetamine.

As a result of the guilty plea, **Jones** faces a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine of up to \$1 million. **Jones'** 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.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney C. Douglas Shull. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the North Central Missouri Drug Task Force, the Howard County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the New Franklin, 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

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