



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

**Contact: Jim Cross**

(316) 269-6481

**Headquarters**

1200 Epic Center  
301 N. Main  
Wichita, Kansas 67202  
(316)269-6481  
FAX (316)269-6484

**Topeka Office**

444 Quincy  
Topeka, Kansas 66683

**Kansas City Office**

500 State Avenue  
Suite 360  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News releases are available at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/ks/](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ks/)

NOV. 2, 2004

## PARSONS WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SELLING MARIJUANA, POSSESSING A FIREARM FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

KANSAS CITY, KAN. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Brandi Altman**, 25, Parsons, Kan., pleaded guilty to drug and firearms charges.

Altman pleaded guilty Nov. 1, 2004 before U.S. District Judge G. Thomas Van Bebber to **one count of distributing marijuana and one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.**

In her plea, Altman admitted that on Oct. 28, 2003 she met a buyer she did not know was cooperating with investigators outside the public library in Parsons, Kan. She sold the buyer 107.63 grams of marijuana. She admitted that the sale had been arranged by Tremayne Darkis, a co-defendant in the case.

In her plea, Altman also admitted that on Oct. 31, 2003 she met a buyer she did not know was cooperating with investigators outside the library in Parsons and sold the buyer 106.51 grams of marijuana. Officers later served a search warrant at the apartment in Parsons that Altman shared with Darkis. In addition to 1,170.22 grams of marijuana, officers found a loaded Jennings 9 mm handgun that Altman had purchased a few days earlier.

Sentencing is set for Jan. 24, 2005 before Judge VanBebber. Altman faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine on the distribution charge; and not less than five years and not more than life in prison, consecutive to any other sentence, and a \$250,000 fine, on the firearms charge.

Melgren commended the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal

(More)

Revenue Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Kansas Highway Patrol, the Parsons Police Department, the Labette County Sheriff's Office and the Labette County Attorney's Office, all of which were involved in the investigation, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask, who prosecuted the case.