



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

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“ONE OF THE BOYS” PLEADS GUILTY IN CRACK COCAINE CASE

KANSAS CITY, KAN. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced today that **MARION BRUCE JOHNSON**, 47, Coffeyville, Kan., pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute more than five grams of crack cocaine. Johnson entered the plea Nov. 19 before U.S. District Judge Carlos Murguia in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kan.

In his plea, Johnson admitted that beginning in January 1999 he and others engaged in distributing crack cocaine in southeast Kansas and southwest Missouri. The group obtained large quantities of cocaine powder and then manufactured crack cocaine or sometimes purchased large quantities of crack cocaine and sold it in smaller quantities.

Johnson said his role in the drug trafficking organization was to distribute crack cocaine to buyers. He admitted in his plea that on Jan. 17, 2003 he delivered 2.66 grams of crack cocaine to an undercover agent with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and collected \$800 from the agent during a meeting at a car wash near 25th and Main streets in Parsons, Kan. Johnson made the delivery after a co-conspirator, Adam Davis, had told the undercover agent he would send “one of the boys” to make the delivery. On July 22, 2003, law enforcement officers served search warrants at 2324 Washington and 2324 ½ Washington in Parsons, where Johnson was living. They found 5.44 grams of crack cocaine and letters addressed to Johnson from co-conspirator Tim Ford in which Ford talked about his drug trafficking lifestyle.

At sentencing, Johnson will face a maximum penalty of not less than five years and not more than 40 years in federal prison and a \$2 million fine.

Melgren commended the work of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Parsons Police Department, the Labette County Sheriff’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation,

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the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, the Coffeyville Police Department, the Winfield Police Department, the Joplin, Mo., Police Department, the Labette County Attorney's Office and the Cowley County Attorney's Office in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Rask in this prosecution.