



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SPRINGFIELD MAN SENTENCED IN METH CONSPIRACY**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for his role in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. Co-defendants in this case, Graves added, operated one of the largest meth labs ever found in southwest Missouri from a home in a residential neighborhood in Springfield.

**Sean L. Simaytis**, 37, of Springfield, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to seven years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Simaytis** to forfeit to the government \$14,166, the proceeds from the sale of methamphetamine, which law enforcement officers seized from his home on Dec. 16, 2003.

On Aug. 12, 2004, **Simaytis** pleaded guilty to participating in the conspiracy with **David F. Williams**, 31, also of Springfield, to manufacture and distribute in excess of 500 grams of methamphetamine.

**Simaytis** admitted that he conspired to distribute between 1.5 kilograms and five kilograms of methamphetamine in southwest Missouri. **Simaytis** would trade processed methamphetamine that he received from **Williams** for precursors, such as pseudoephedrine and red phosphorus, Graves explained. **Simaytis** would then bring the chemicals and ingredients back to **Williams** to be used to manufacture more methamphetamine.

**Williams** was convicted by a federal jury on Sept. 15, 2004, on all counts of a Jan. 26, 2004, federal indictment.

**Williams** was arrested on Jan. 7, 2004, when law enforcement officers discovered a large-scale methamphetamine manufacturing laboratory in his home at 1221 S. Crutcher in Springfield. Agents located a large quantity of methamphetamine in the house, as well as 39

boxes containing pseudoephedrine tablets, 25 plastic zip-lock bags containing pseudoephedrine tablets and five bags of crushed pseudoephedrine powder. Agents also found several firearms and items used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, such as anhydrous ammonia tanks.

Count One of the federal indictment charged **Williams** and **Simaytis** with participating in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute in excess of 500 grams of methamphetamine from November 2003 to Jan. 7, 2004, in Greene County, Mo.

In addition to the conspiracy count, **Williams** was also found guilty of several charges related to the operation of the meth lab at his home on Jan. 7, 2004:

- \* attempting to manufacture methamphetamine;
- \* being in possession of pseudoephedrine, knowing that it would be used to manufacture methamphetamine;
- \* being in possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine;
- \* maintaining a residence at 1221 S. Crutcher for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine; and
- \* creating a substantial risk of harm to human life while manufacturing methamphetamine in the residence located at 1221 S. Crutcher.

**Williams** was also found guilty of being a felon in possession of eight firearms – including a Tanfoglio Giuseppe .45-caliber semi-automatic handgun and ammunition, a Beretta .380-caliber semi-automatic handgun, a Harrington and Richardson .22-caliber revolver, a Lorcin .380-caliber semi-automatic handgun and ammunition, a Smith and Wesson .357 magnum revolver and ammunition, a Century Arms International .308-caliber rifle and ammunition, a Remington 12-gauge shotgun, and a Savage Arms 12-gauge shotgun – on Jan. 7, 2004, in Greene County. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Williams** has two 1991 criminal felony convictions for burglary in Greene County and two 1993 criminal felony convictions for burglary in Greene County and Lawrence County, Mo.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly Weber Dean and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robyn McKee and David P. Rush. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, COMET (the Combined Ozarks Multi-jurisdictional Enforcement Team), the Greene County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

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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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