

For Immediate Release  
January 20, 2012

**DEMING MAN SENTENCED TO 37 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT  
FOR TRAFFICKING IN METHAMPHETAMINE**

LAS CRUCES – U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that, on January 18, 2012, a federal judge in Las Cruces, N.M., sentenced **Michael J. Charles Tindell**, 37, of Deming, N.M., to 37 months of imprisonment for his federal drug trafficking conviction. Tindell will serve a three- year term of supervised release after he completes his prison sentence.

On October 12, 2011, Tindell pled guilty to a five-count indictment charging him with four counts of distribution of methamphetamine and one count of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. Tindell, who was arrested on June 6, 2011, has been in custody since his plea hearing.

According to documents filed with the court, in January and February 2011, Tindell sold methamphetamine to a confidential informant who, unbeknownst to Tindell, was working with law enforcement. During Tindell's plea hearing, he also admitted that on June 2, 2011, agents with the New Mexico Department of Public Safety found methamphetamine hidden inside a can near Tindell's parked vehicle. After being advised of his Miranda rights, Tindell admitted to the agents that the methamphetamine was his. In all, Tindell distributed or possessed 23.75 grams of pure methamphetamine.

The case was investigated by the Deming office of Homeland Security Investigations and the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron O. Jordan.

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