

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
June 22, 2005**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Western District of Kentucky**

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UNITED STATES ARMY CAPTAIN INDICTED FOR DRUG DEALING

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **ARTHUR MESSER**, age 33, of 229 S. Hite Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky, and **HAROLD BATES**, age 41, of 229 S. Hite Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky were indicted for possessing 50 grams or more of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it. **MESSER** was also indicted for possessing firearms while being an unlawful user of methamphetamine.

MESSER and **BATES** face a maximum term of imprisonment of life, a maximum fine of \$4,000,000 and a period of supervised release of not less than 5 years. **MESSER** and **BATES** face a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and they are not eligible for probation. There is no parole in the federal system.

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On Tuesday, May 10, 2005, Louisville Metro Police obtained state search warrants for residences at 229 S. Hite Avenue and 427 Park Avenue. Louisville Metro Police Officers executed the search warrant at 229 S. Hite Avenue on May 10, when police seized approximately 127 grams of methamphetamine from the residence and two handguns from a safe inside the residence. On May 10, 2005, police also executed a state search warrant for an apartment in the rear of 427 Park Avenue. In a hidden compartment adjacent to the kitchen sink, police found approximately 225 grams of methamphetamine and \$3,240.00.

On May 11, 2005, **MESSER**, a Captain in the United States Army stationed at Fort Knox, went Absent Without Leave (AWOL) from the United States Army, and he was arrested by federal authorities on June 6, 2005 at 229 S. Hite Avenue.

MESSER and **BATES** are scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on July 19, 2005, at 9:15 a.m, in Louisville, Kentucky.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Brian Butler, and it was investigated by the Louisville Metro Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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