



NEWS RELEASE
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April 19, 2006

FIFTEEN CHARGED IN METHAMPHETAMINE DISTRIBUTION CONSPIRACY INCLUDED PROVIDING METH TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

United States Attorney John L. Brownlee and Special Agent in Charge William J. Hoover of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), announced today that 15 people have been charged in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine in Rockingham and Augusta Counties in Virginia that included providing methamphetamine to high school students.

"These conspirators were not only bringing a great deal of methamphetamine into the Harrisonburg area, but then they were poisoning our children with it," said United States Attorney John Brownlee. "Methamphetamine is the most dangerous drug we deal with today, and it was important to take these defendants off the street so they cannot harm another child."

Through the investigation, agents have seized a pound of methamphetamine, more than 40 firearms, and more than \$10,000.00 from members of the conspiracy.

The investigation began when ATF agents responded to the scene of a car bombing on February 10, 2005, at the home of Gregory Layman on Indian Trail Road in Harrisonburg. ATF agents determined that Joseph Jenkins had planted a homemade bomb on the hood of Layman's car. The bomb exploded and injured Layman and damaged his vehicle. Jenkins later said he was trying to harm a Mexican national known to Jenkins as "Mo." "Mo" was Layman's source for methamphetamine, and is the source of methamphetamine for other conspirators charged in this indictment. Layman would then sell methamphetamine to Jenkins.

The grand jury has charged that beginning in March 2004, Maurilio Prieto-Rubi, or "Mo," would supply crystal meth or "Ice" to co-conspirator, Dawn Deibert, who would then supply other meth distributors that included James Dean, Franklin Hollingsworth, Justin Wood, Stephen Monger, Eric Waybright, and Matthew Propst. These conspirators would then sell methamphetamine to others.

Much of the methamphetamine that was distributed by members of this conspiracy was of exceptionally high purity, with percentages ranging up to 91 percent in laboratory analysis. This kind of methamphetamine, or "meth" is called "crystal meth" or "Ice."

The grand jury indictment also alleges that the following acts took place:

- Between August 2004 and February 2005, conspirator Layman would hold parties at his home and would invite juveniles to attend. Layman would provide those juveniles with alcohol and methamphetamine and would sometimes engage in sexual activity with the juveniles. Sometimes methamphetamine would be provided in exchange for overnight stays at Layman's home.
- In August 2004, Layman hosted a party at his home on Indian Trail Road in Harrisonburg. Several of the other conspirators attended the party. At the party meth and alcohol were provided to juveniles. Layman had a baseball-sized chunk of methamphetamine on his bedroom vanity and showed it off to others at the party.
- According to the indictment, in September 2004, on a school day, co-conspirator Layman invited two high school girls to leave school and come to his home. When the girls got to Layman's home, Layman showed them a softball sized chunk of meth and offered it to the girls. The girls accepted the meth and they smoked meth for about an hour before driving home.
- From September 2004 through February 10, 2005, Layman hosted between two and five juveniles on almost every school day, providing them with methamphetamine or alcohol, or sometimes both. Other members of the

conspiracy would bring the girls to Layman's home.

- Layman gave one of the juvenile girls an eighth of an ounce of methamphetamine as a birthday present for her 17th birthday. The date of the girl's birthday is being withheld to protect her identity.
- On December 31, 2004, Layman hosted a New Year's Eve party at his home in Harrisonburg, Va. Several of the other conspirators attended the party and distributed methamphetamine and alcohol to juvenile girls.

The Grand Jury further alleges that:

- On October 24, 2004, agents executed a search warrant on the home of Dawn Deibert. Agents recovered \$2,700 in cash as well as records of drug trafficking, including "owe" sheets reflecting drug debts owed to Deibert or James R. Dean.
- On March 9, 2005, both Dean and Deibert, on separate occasions, sold methamphetamine to a police informant.
- On March 16, 2005, police searched Dean's home and found 12 grams of methamphetamine and approximately 40 firearms. Other members of the conspiracy were also present at Dean's home when the search warrant was executed.
- According to the indictment, on June 6, 2005, Deibert was stopped for a traffic violation and had in her possession half of a pound of methamphetamine and \$1,266.00 in cash. Deibert was then arrested on July 19, 2005, and found to be in possession of two ounces of "ice" methamphetamine and \$6,000. In the weeks before she was arrested, Deibert was receiving a pound of methamphetamine every three to four days from Maurilio Prieto-Rubi for re-distribution.
- That after Deibert and Dean were arrested, other sellers of methamphetamine began selling more meth more often to the remaining conspirators.

Deibert and Dean were indicted in July 2005 and have both plead guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Dean has also plead guilty to possession of a firearm by a user of a controlled substance. Dean was sentenced April 17, 2006 in United States District Court by the Honorable Judge Glen E. Conrad to 14 years in prison and five years supervised release. Deibert was sentenced the same day to 17 years and six months in prison and five years supervised release.

According to the indictment:

- On April 10, 2005, Ann Good was stopped for a traffic violation and had Matthew Propst in the car with her. Officers seized a small quantity of methamphetamine, a glass smoking device and a .40 caliber pistol.
- Justin Wood was arrested on July 19, 2005 and found to be in possession of \$1,000, a .45 caliber pistol and marijuana.
- In July 2005, shortly after Deibert and Dean were arrested, Timothy Cardin and Eric Waybright began to distribute "ice" methamphetamine obtained from Stephen Monger at his home in Elkton, Va. William Meadows and Charles Conley also supplied ice methamphetamine to other co-conspirators for their use and re-distribution.

On September 30, 2005, agents executed a search warrant at the home of Propst and Good. Agents seized a .40 caliber pistol, ammunition, methamphetamine, digital scales, and other items used in the sale of methamphetamine.

On December 12, 2005, agents executed another search warrant, this time on Florist Road in Elkton, at the residence of Stephen Monger. Agents seized five baggies of methamphetamine that Monger threw down as he fled from officers and a .45 caliber pistol. Propst was in another bedroom where he and Good were living, pretending to sleep. In Propst's room, agents found two additional ounces of methamphetamine and a glass meth-smoking device.

On March 15, 2006, Michael Childress sold an ounce of meth to a police informant. Agents executed a search warrant at Childress' home shortly after the sale and seized four ounces of methamphetamine, and \$9,000.00. This methamphetamine and numerous other pounds of methamphetamine, came to Childress directly from Maurilio Prieto-Rubi.

If convicted, the defendants could forfeit all property obtained as a result of their criminal activity, including any firearms or ammunition involved in the commission of these crimes. Monger could forfeit his home and all his property on Florist Road in Elkton, Va. Layman could forfeit his home and all his property on Indian Trail Road.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the RUSH Drug Task Force, the Augusta County Sheriff's Office, Waynesboro Police Department, and the Rockingham County Fire Marshal's Office.

Assistant United States Attorney Rusty Fitzgerald will prosecute the case.

A grand jury indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial with the burden on the United States to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The defendants, their charges, and the penalty range for the charges, if the defendants are found guilty, are:

| Defendant | Age | Hometown | Charges | Penalty |
|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|--|
| Maurilio Prieto-Rubi | 28 | Mexico | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Timothy P. Cardin | 24 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Michael W. Childress | 42 | Waynesboro, Va | (1) Conspiracy (13) Distribution of Meth (14) Possession of Meth | 10-Life 0-20 10-Life |
| Charles W. Conley | 39 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Ann M. Good | 23 | | (1) Conspiracy (3) Possession of a firearm (8) Possession of a firearm | 10-Life 5-25 5-25 |
| Rodney W. Hensley | 35 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Franklin S. Hollingsworth | 37 | Staunton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Gregory Elwood Layman | 45 | Harrisonburg, Va | (1) Conspiracy (2) Possession of a firearm | 10-Life 0-10 |
| William C. Meadows | 25 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Stephen Todd Monger | 25 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy (10) Possession of meth (11) Possession of a firearm (12) Distribution of meth | 10-Life 0-20 5-25 0-20 |
| Mark Moore | 35 | Harrisonburg, Va | (1) Conspiracy (7) Possession of a firearm | 10-Life 5-25 |
| Matthew Allen Propst | 25 | | (1) Conspiracy (3) Possession of a firearm (4) Possession of a firearm (8) Possession of a firearm (9) Possession of meth | 10-Life 5-25 5-25 5-25 10-Life |
| Wendy E. Taylor | 32 | Elkton, Va | (1) Conspiracy | 10-Life |
| Eric Shawn Waybright | 28 | Grottoes, Va | (1) Conspiracy (5) Possession of a firearm | 10-Life 5-25 |
| Justin Wood | 22 | Crimora, Va | (1) Conspiracy (6) Possession of a firearm | 10-Life 5-25 |

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