



Department of Justice

United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton
Middle District of Florida

Tampa	Orlando	Ocala	Jacksonville	Fort Myers
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE			CONTACT: STEVE COLE	
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http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr			FAX: (813) 274-6300	

WEBSTER MAN SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS FOR METH TRAFFICKING

Ocala, Florida - On March 3, 2009, Senior U.S. District Judge Patricia C. Fawsett sentenced Phillip David Fussell (age 48, of Webster, Florida) to 18 years in federal prison for conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine and for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. A federal jury found Fussell guilty on October 23, 2008, following a three-day federal jury trial.

According to court documents and testimony, Sumter County Sheriff's Officers executed a search warrant at Fussell's house on the morning of February 24, 2007 and arrested Fussell. They also found methamphetamine, digital scales, police frequency scanners, wrapping materials, more than \$14,000 in cash (\$6,970 in Fussell's pockets), and 25 firearms, including rifles, shotguns and handguns. Among the firearms was a loaded revolver that was on a dining room table next to methamphetamine and a scale for weighing methamphetamine. Witnesses testified that they had delivered more than 50 pounds of methamphetamine to Fussell for further distribution by him. Fussell also had a video surveillance system set up so that he could see anyone who approached the residence.

This case was investigated by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney E. Jackson Boggs Jr.