



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MEN SENTENCED IN CRACK CONSPIRACY FOLLOWING FOOT CHASE WITH COPS, JURY CONVICTION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Kansas City, Mo., men were sentenced in federal court today for conspiring to distribute crack cocaine.

Ali M. Akbar, 23, and **Angelo D. Dawson**, 19, both of Kansas City, were sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this afternoon. **Akbar** was sentenced to 15 years and eight months in federal prison without parole and **Dawson** was sentenced to 12 years and seven months in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 10, 2004, the co-defendants were found guilty of conspiracy to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine. A federal jury found **Akbar** and **Dawson** guilty of conspiracy to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine on June 11, 2003, in Jackson County, Mo. The federal jury also found **Akbar** and **Dawson** guilty of aiding and abetting each other in the possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine on June 11, 2003. Additionally, the federal jury found **Akbar** guilty of possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine on June 11, 2003. The co-defendant's two-day trial began on Feb. 9, 2004.

The co-defendants were originally charged in a single-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury on July 10, 2003, in Kansas City. The original indictment was later replaced by a three-count superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 17, 2003, in Kansas City.

Akbar and **Dawson** were initially arrested on June 11, 2003, after law enforcement officers attempted to conduct a routine traffic stop on a vehicle driven by **Akbar**. **Dawson** was a passenger of the vehicle.

Law enforcement officers observed the vehicle fail to stop at a posted stop sign at 23rd Street and Kansas Avenue in Kansas City. Although law enforcement officers attempted to stop the vehicle, **Akbar** continued to drive until finally stopping in a residential driveway, located at 3008 E. 20th Terr. At that time, **Akbar** and **Dawson** both exited the vehicle and attempted to flee the scene on foot, Graves said. Shortly after, however, both co-defendants were apprehended.

A search of the co-defendants resulted in the discovery of several plastic bags containing crack cocaine, Graves said.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow