



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

DATE: August 5, 2004

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## **"METHBUSTERS" INITIATIVE PUTS PITTSBURG MAN IN FEDERAL PRISON**

(Marshall, TX) A 51-year-old Pittsburg, Texas, man has been sentenced to 60 months in federal prison for Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine. **JOE VIDAL CASILLAS** was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge T. John Ward.

According to evidence presented in court, law enforcement officers with the Ark.La.Tex. Narcotics Task Force, the Camp County Sheriff's Office, and the Sulphur Springs Police Department, combined resources from July through October 2002 to investigate Casillas' methamphetamine distribution activity. During that period of time, investigators utilized a confidential informant to purchase methamphetamine from Casillas on several occasions. Casillas was indicted by a federal grand jury on July 8, 2003. He was arrested on July 26, 2003 and he entered a plea of guilty to the charges on April 2, 2004.

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**Matthew D. Orwig, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, praised law enforcement for getting another dangerous methamphetamine trafficker off the streets, "The 'Methbusters' Initiative is getting results. Methamphetamine traffickers can continue to expect vigorous federal prosecution in the Eastern District of Texas."**

This case was investigated by the Ark.La.Tex. Narcotics Task Force, the Camp County Sheriff's Office and the Sulphur Springs Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Barry Bryant prosecuted the case.

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