



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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METHBUSTERS STRIKES AGAIN FOUR COLEMAN RESIDENTS HEAD FOR PRISON

(Tyler, Texas) A group of individuals arrested in Cherokee County have each been sentenced to 60 months in federal prison for manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine in the Eastern District of Texas. The fourth and final defendant in the case, **LYNN ALLEN ISBELL**, 23, of Coleman was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge William M. Steger.

According to information presented in court, Isbell was among a group of individuals arrested in Cherokee County possessing a small quantity of methamphetamine, pseudoephedrine tablets and the paraphernalia used to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. The four Coleman residents were all indicted by a federal grand jury on January 6, 2004, and pleaded guilty to the charges of Conspiracy to Manufacture and Distribute Methamphetamine.

FOREST LEE WELLS, 45, was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison on August 23, 2004. **JOSEPH MICHAEL DIXON**, 19, was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison on September 7, 2004. **DEANE LOMONE JOHNSON**, 21, was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison on August 30, 2004.

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This case is part of the Methbusters initiative. Methbusters is an aggressive program implemented in the Eastern District of Texas to address the growing problem of methamphetamine trafficking in East Texas. The United States Attorney's Office has joined with law enforcement to aggressively pursue and prosecute those involved with manufacturing and distributing the methamphetamine drug or the chemicals used in its production.

Matthew D. Orwig, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas was pleased with the sentencings, "Methamphetamine destroys lives and communities. This office is committed to disrupting the flow of meth in East Texas and aggressively prosecuting those responsible."

This case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Dogwood Trails Narcotics Task Force, and the Coleman County Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Ann Cozby prosecuted the case.

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