

MEDIA RELEASE

**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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WHITESVILLE MAN INDICTED ON METH CHARGES

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today that a federal Grand Jury in Louisville **returned an Indictment** charging **ERIC D. WILKERSON**, age 23, of 8029 Crisp Road, Whitesville, Kentucky, Daviess County, with drug trafficking.

The Indictment charges that on September 23, 2006, **Wilkerson** possessed methamphetamine for the purpose of distribution. The Indictment further charges that on October 9, 2006, **Wilkerson** possessed pseudoephedrine, a precursor to methamphetamine, for the purpose of making methamphetamine. Methamphetamine has a street value of \$100-\$150 per gram in Kentucky.

On September 23, 2006, after a transaction at Vessel's Mini-Mart in Whitesville, Kentucky, **Wilkerson** was observed dropping a black pouch on the ground. The Daviess County Sheriff's Department was called after it was discovered that the pouch contained six individually wrapped plastic baggies containing white powder and a glass pipe. A still photograph from the video located inside the store was obtained and it was determined that the person in the still photograph was **Wilkerson**.

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On October 9, 2006, **Wilkerson** was pulled over by detectives of the Daviess County Sheriff's Department. A search of **Wilkerson's** vehicle revealed several pills of suspected pseudoephedrine. Specifically, there were 70 (60 mg) pills and 320 (120 mg) pills and 10 (240 mg) pills in **Wilkerson's** vehicle. The total milligrams of suspected pseudoephedrine pills there equaled 45,000 milligrams.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are not more than 30 years, \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of not less than 6 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert J. Kilmartin and it was investigated by the Daviess County Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Wilkerson is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on March 22, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., in Owensboro, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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