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# **News Release**

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## **14 plead guilty to distributing methamphetamine in Duluth**

Fourteen people pleaded guilty this week in federal court in connection with possessing and distributing the highly addictive and dangerous drug methamphetamine for the past three years in Duluth. All of the pleas were entered in Duluth before United States District Court Judge Donovan Frank.

On Dec. 18, Karen Marie Tremain, 43, Duluth, pleaded guilty to one count of aiding and abetting the possession with intent to distribute in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine. John Eugene Highland, 26, Two Harbors, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute between 350-500 grams of methamphetamine.

On Dec. 17, Bobbi Sue Nesgoda, unknown age, unknown address, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to distribute in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine. Beatris Elena Arellanes, 34, Minneapolis, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 5 grams of methamphetamine. Alanna Lynn Brown, 23, Duluth, pleaded guilty to one count of aiding and abetting in the possession with intent to distribute in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine. Joshua Edward Cameron, 31, Maple Grove, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 5 grams of methamphetamine.

Joey James Hagadorn, 39, Superior, Wisc., pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of between 1,500-5,000 grams of methamphetamine. Kirk Paul Johnson, 56, Lutsen, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 5 grams of methamphetamine. Tracy Lyn Myers, 35, Duluth, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine. John Edward Schostag, 37, Duluth, pleaded guilty to one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine and one count of possession of a firearm by a felon. Michael Allen Trent, 29, unknown address, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine.

On Dec. 16, Gail Lynn Lindrud, 53, Forbes, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 5 grams of methamphetamine. Martin John Lindrud, 53, Forbes, also pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of in excess of 5 grams of methamphetamine. Justin Paul Linskie, 23, Duluth, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of between 500-1,500 grams of

methamphetamine.

The 14 were indicted on Aug. 20, along with 14 additional defendants. Two additional defendants have already been sentenced in connection with this distribution ring. Johnny Lee Blevins, 23, St. Paul, was sentenced to 60 months in prison and five years supervised release on one count of conspiracy to distribute in excess of 15 kilograms of methamphetamine. Blevins was sentenced on Sept. 24. Blevins was indicted on Feb. 5, and pleaded guilty on May 13.

Edgar Manuel Sierra-Serrano, 29, St. Paul, was sentenced on Oct. 10 to 151 months in prison and five years supervised release on one count of conspiracy. Sierra-Serrano was also indicted on Feb. 5, and pleaded guilty on May 12.

Another defendant connected to the ring, Jimmy Jo Korf, 27, St. Paul, pleaded guilty July 8 to one count of distribution and possession with intent to distribute in excess of 15 kilograms of methamphetamine. Korf was indicted on April 23. A sentencing date has not been scheduled.

Judge Frank will determine the sentences for the 14 defendants at a future date. The potential penalties range from a mandatory minimum of five years to life in prison.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Duluth Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Lake Superior Drug and Gang Task Force, the Superior, Wisc. Police Department, the Minnesota State Patrol, the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office, the Carlton County Sheriff's Office, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the U.S. Marshals Service and the U.S. Attorney's Office. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christian S. Wilton.