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News Release

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Savage man indicted for possessing with intent to distribute ecstasy

A 25-year-old Savage man was recently indicted in federal court in St. Paul for possessing with intent to distribute approximately 1,200 tablets of the semisynthetic psychedelic drug MDMA, commonly known as ecstasy. On March 8, 2011, Michael Richard Vikander was charged with one count of possession with intent to distribute ecstasy. Vikander made his initial appearance earlier today in federal court.

The indictment alleges that between March and June of 2009, Vikander possessed with intent to distribute approximately 300 grams of ecstasy. According to a law enforcement affidavit filed in the case, in March of 2009, authorities learned that Vikander was selling large amounts of ecstasy. Then, on March 23, 2009, law enforcement conducted an arranged controlled purchase of 100 ecstasy pills from him in Brooklyn Center. Subsequent arranged controlled purchases were made on April 15, 2009 (500 pills), on April 22, 2009 (360 pills), and on June 1, 2009 (242 pills). After the June 1 purchase, Vikander was arrested.

If convicted, Vikander faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. All sentences will be determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Julie E. Allyn.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.

