



Department of Justice

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Western District of Texas

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MANDATORY LIFE SENTENCE FOR THREE-STRIKE DEFENDANT IN CONNECTION WITH PERMIAN BASIN METHAMPHETAMINE DISTRIBUTION CONSPIRACY

Anthony Scott Pope, aka "Alabama," age 49, of Gardendale, Texas, will spend the rest of his life in federal prison announced United States Attorney Robert Pitman.

Pope was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge Robert A. Junell after a jury convicted him on July 5, 2012, of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine in amounts greater than 50 grams (actual) and 500 grams of methamphetamine (mixture).

Evidence presented during the trial established that from April to November 2011, Pope was the center of a group of methamphetamine traffickers—many of whom testified against him--operating in Odessa, Kermit, and Andrews, Texas. Evidence established that Pope, using runners, acquired multi-ounce quantities of methamphetamine on a weekly basis from sources of supply in Hobbs, New Mexico, and the Dallas-Fort Worth area and distributed the methamphetamine out of his residence in Gardendale. On October 27, 2011, authorities made a successful controlled purchase of methamphetamine from Pope at his residence.

Pope's criminal history reflects possession of felony methamphetamine possession convictions in Grayson County (1998), Hood County (2002 and 2004), and Erath County in 2004. Pope was on parole for the second Hood County and Erath County convictions at the time of his arrest on the federal charge in November 2011.

This case was investigated by the Midland Police Department, Odessa Police Department and Kermit Police Department. Assistant United States Attorneys John Klassen and William Tatum prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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