

U. S. Department of Justice

Jason R. Coody United States Attorney Northern District of Florida

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FRANKLIN COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS FEDERAL PRISON FOR DRUG-TRAFFICKING CHARGES

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA – John E. Evans, 55, of Eastpoint, Florida, was sentenced on Monday to ten years in federal prison followed by ten years of supervised release after pleading guilty to conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. The sentence was announced by Jason R. Coody, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida.

"Those who repeatedly commit serious crimes are deserving of significant prison sentences," said U.S. Attorney Coody. "This career criminal has demonstrated his unwillingness to abide by the law, committing repeated drug crimes. Given the outstanding work of our state, local, and federal law enforcement partners, he will no longer be distributing drugs in our community."

Court documents reflect that Evans conspired to distribute approximately ten pounds of methamphetamine along with other federal defendants. On September 28, 2021, and October 9, 2021, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office made controlled purchases of methamphetamine from Evans.

"We are thankful for the partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office," said Franklin County Sheriff A.J. Smith. "This kind of sentence sends a clear message that the sale of meth in our community will not be tolerated."

Evans qualified as a Career Offender and had an enhanced mandatory minimum sentence based on his prior criminal history. Evans had previously been to prison on multiple occasions, primarily for drug-trafficking offenses and had ten prior convictions involving the sale of a controlled substance.

"Methamphetamine is a highly addictive and destructive substance. This sentence highlights our commitment to ensuring that those who bring this poison into our communities are brought to justice," said Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Miami Field Division Special Agent in Charge Deanne L. Reuter. "The DEA Miami Field Division remains steadfast in our commitment to working with our law enforcement partners to protect the safety and health of our Florida communities."

The case resulted from a joint investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James A. McCain.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida is one of 94 offices that serve as the nation's principal litigators under the direction of the Attorney General. To access public court documents online, please visit the <u>U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida</u> website. For more information about the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida, visit <u>http://www.justice.gov/usao/fln/index.html</u>.

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