

Avery Woman Convicted in Federal Drug Case

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Thursday, 08 November 2012 11:00

Following a one day trial in U.S. District Court, on November 6, a jury convicted Sandra E. Parlier, 54, of Elk Park, NC, of conspiracy to manufacture more than 50 grams of methamphetamine. Sentencing is set for March 5th, 2013, in U.S. District Court in Greeneville; TN. Parlier faces a sentence of at least 10 years to life for the conspiracy conviction. In 2008 Agents with Watauga County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit began an investigation into a large scale methamphetamine manufacturing organization operating in NC and TN. The United States Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) became involved in the investigation and in May 2012, 11 people from Tennessee and North Carolina were indicted in the Eastern District of Tennessee. Various individuals identified Parlier as one of the early participants in the conspiracy, responsible for purchasing large quantities of pseudoephedrine and other precursors necessary to manufacture methamphetamine. Pharmacy records confirmed that from 2007 to 2012 Parlier had purchased in excess of 132 grams of pseudoephedrine which was used to manufacture methamphetamine. The conspiracy was responsible for the manufacture of more than two kilograms of methamphetamine over a 10 year period.