



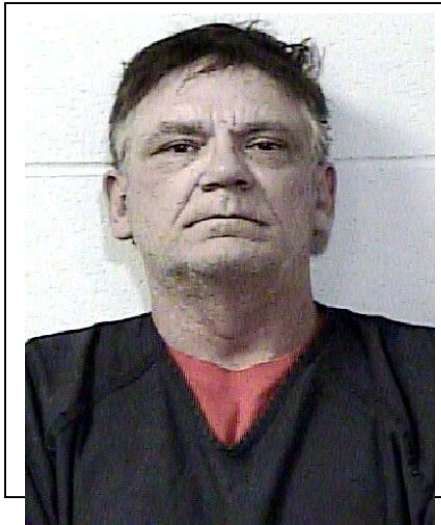
**JOINT PRESS RELEASE:
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE,
December 11, 2018**

CONTACT:

Donna Zulian
Communications Director
District Attorney's Office
(970) 629-0485
dzulian@14da.org

ACET Commander Chip McIntyre
cmcintyre@sheriff.moffat.co.us
(970) 276-2075 Office
(970) 326-3374 Cell

**CRAIG MAN SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DRUG
DISTRIBUTION**



Craig, Colorado. Today, Craig resident Thomas Payne, plead guilty to distribution and possession of methamphetamine and received a 25 year prison sentence. The case arose from an investigation by the All Crimes Enforcement Team who arrested Mr. Payne with over ½ pound of suspected methamphetamine in his possession.

ACET Commander Chip McIntyre stated, "This guilty plea is the result of a true partnership between District Attorney's Office, local law enforcement and ACET. Mr. Payne is a serious, historical offender who profited from the addiction of others -- our community is a much safer place with him incarcerated."

District Attorney Brett Barkey stated, "Methamphetamine continues to ruin lives and devastate families in our community. We offer help to addicts but have no tolerance for those who pitilessly seek economic gain in this evil enterprise. The District Attorney's Office and our law enforcement partners will continue the aggressive investigation and prosecution of those who deal in this awful drug."

The All Crimes Enforcement Team (ACET) is comprised of investigators with the Moffat County Sheriff's Office, Routt County Sheriff's Office, Craig Police Department and the Steamboat Springs Police Department.

###