



**Twelfth Judicial District**  
**State of New Mexico**  
OTERO, LINCOLN COUNTIES

**JOHN P. SUGG**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NOTE: PLEASE SEND  
RESPONSE TO ADDRESS  
INDICATED BELOW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2018

**65-YEAR OLD LINCOLN COUNTY MAN CONVICTED OF TRAFFICKING METHAMPHETAMINE**

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney John P. Sugg announced today that a Lincoln County jury has found Wade Willis, age 65, guilty of Trafficking Methamphetamine by Possession with Intent to Distribute, Receiving Stolen Property, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia following a two-day trial before the Honorable Daniel A. Bryant.

On December 8, 2016, the White Mountain Drug Task force executed a search warrant on the property located at 27194 Highway 70 in Glencoe, New Mexico. Willis, who had been the target of an ongoing drug investigation in the Hondo Valley, was found in his residence when agents arrived. After Willis was detained, he told agents that they would find what they were looking for in a file cabinet in the kitchen.

Agents subsequently found approximately one pound of methamphetamine in the filing cabinet. The drugs had an estimated street value of \$43,000. Detectives found additional evidence of drug trafficking including digital scales, small baggies that were being used to package the methamphetamine, a drug ledger, and stolen property.

“It’s no secret that we have a significant drug problem in the Hondo Valley,” Sugg said. “If not for the hard work of the Narcotics Task Force, these drugs would have wound up in the hands of our youth. We recognize this is a small step in addressing the drug problem in our community, but it is a good example of our determination to aggressively prosecuting drug traffickers in Lincoln County.”

Willis faces up to 11 ½ years in prison at a sentencing that will occur later this year. Willis was originally released on bond pending trial, but he was later arrested and charged with another count of drug trafficking after being arrest by the Ruidoso Police Department. Those charges remain pending.

The case was prosecuted by District Attorney John P. Sugg. This case was investigated by the White Mountain Narcotics Unit.

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