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LAREDO, TEXAS MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY DISTRIBUTING HEROIN AND OTHER DRUGS

Defendant involved in transportation of drugs in Louisiana and North Dakota

Shreveport, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **ENRIQUE GURROLA, JR.**, age 54, of Laredo, Texas, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Tom Stagg to **spend 240 months in prison** for drug trafficking.

GURROLA was indicted in January 2006 in the Western District of Louisiana and charged with two counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine and heroin. A separate indictment was returned against GURROLA in October 2006 out of the District of North Dakota charging him with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and marijuana. The indictment from North Dakota was later transferred to the Western District of Louisiana.

In September 2007, GURROLA pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute heroin on the Louisiana indictment; and to conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and marijuana on the North Dakota indictment. These charges are the result of a traffic stop of the vehicle that GURROLA was driving. After questioning, GURROLA consented to allow officers to search

his vehicle. Officers discovered a false compartment which had been manufactured into GURROLA's vehicle, and subsequently found cocaine and heroin in the false compartment. The charges in North Dakota stem from a separate investigation into GURROLA's involvement in drug trafficking in that district.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

The Louisiana case was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Shreveport Resident Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Allison D. Bushnell. The case in North Dakota was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, which included agencies in North Dakota and Minnesota, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Chris Myers.

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