

U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

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LEADER OF COCAINE TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION RECEIVES LENGTHY FEDERAL PRISON SENTENCE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that yesterday in Midland, Rodolfo Olivas Hernandez, the leader of a cocaine trafficking organization, was sentenced to 270 months in federal prison after pleading guilty in January to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Robert Junell ordered that Hernandez be placed under supervised release for a period of five years after completing his prison term.

Other members of his organization received the following federal prison sentences for their roles in the drug trafficking operation: Guadalupe Alvarado Galindo (Hernandez' lieutenant), 228 months; Jaime Carrasco, 70 months; Roberto Carrasco, 63 months; Larry McGill, 63 months; Victor Rocha, 57 months; Oraol Hernandez, 51 months; and Shalim Zubiate 41 months. Each pleaded guilty in January to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

From May 2005 until November 2007, the defendants imported at least 66 kilograms of cocaine from Mexico into the United States and then distributed the cocaine to drug dealers in the West Texas area. On November 2, 2007, authorities arrested the defendants after confiscating a large shipment of cocaine at Olivas' house in Ector County Southwest of Odessa, Texas.

The convictions are the result of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Ector County Sheriff's Office, Midland County Sheriff's Office, Odessa Police Department, Department of Homeland Security, United States Marshals Service and Drug Enforcement Administration also participated in the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Glenn Roque-Jackson prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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