



Department of Justice

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MEXICAN METHAMPHETAMINE KINGPIN SENTENCED

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JOSE PEREZ, 23, Michoacan, Mexico and Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 360 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following his guilty plea to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise, and conspiracy to launder monetary instruments. This case was the result of a nine-month investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Metro Drug Task Force, Beech Grove Police Department, Indianapolis Police Department, Marion County Sheriff's Department, Vigo County Drug Task Force, Clay County Sheriff's Department which resulted in an indictment of 13 individuals on April 16, 2006. Subsequently a total of 26 individuals were indicted in connection with this investigation.

PEREZ directed the activities of a methamphetamine trafficking organization from the Indianapolis area. PEREZ coordinated the receipt of large quantities of methamphetamine from suppliers in McAllen, Texas and California. PEREZ received the methamphetamine at his residence, located at 87 North County Road 400 West, Greenfield, Indiana. PEREZ' organization distributed the methamphetamine along the I-70 corridor running from Indianapolis to Terre Haute. PEREZ' methamphetamine trafficking cell distributed approximately eighty to one-hundred pounds of methamphetamine per month from May, 2005 through June 8, 2006.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney also imposed five years supervised release following PEREZ' release from imprisonment. PEREZ will be deported to Mexico following the completion of his sentence.

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