



Department of Justice

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FOUR CHARGED IN LARGE SCALE METHAMPHETAMINE AND COCAINE TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY

Search Warrants In Gwinnett & Barrow Counties Yield Over 145 Pounds Of "Ice," Over 135 Pounds Of Cocaine, And AR-15 Style Rifle

Atlanta, GA - ARNULFO NUNEZ-VILLANUEVA, 26, MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ, 20, RAFAEL GARCIA-NUNEZ, 33, and MAURICIO MEDINO-MOJICA, 26, all undocumented aliens believed to be from Mexico, were indicted by a federal grand jury late yesterday on charges relating to a large scale methamphetamine and cocaine trafficking conspiracy.

"We are coming after those responsible for the scourge of methamphetamine and other dangerous drugs that undermine the well being of our community and our country," said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "We will also seek additional charges and longer sentences for anyone possessing or using a firearm in conjunction with their drug trafficking activities."

According to Nahmias and the information and documents presented in court: The indictment charges the defendants in relation to 5 separate search warrants that were executed in Gwinnett County and Barrow County on November 21, 2006. A search of 4 residences in those counties yielded a total of 145 pounds of crystal methamphetamine ("ice"), 135 pounds of cocaine, and a .223 caliber AR-15 style rifle. The indictment charges all four defendants with engaging in a conspiracy to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine. In addition, MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ is charged with the actual possession of cocaine and methamphetamine and the possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

DEA Atlanta Special Agent in Charge Sherri Strange noted the quantity of methamphetamine seized in this case constitutes the nation's fifth largest methamphetamine seizure in 2006. At an earlier news conference outlining details of the seizure, Ms. Strange said that DEA maintains a commitment to disrupt and dismantle the organizations that bring these drugs to Atlanta, commenting, "As members of these groups step up their operations, we are going to step up our operations."

This case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, with assistance from the Barrow County and Gwinnett County Police Departments.

Assistant United States Attorney Garrett M. Heenan is prosecuting the case.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Atlanta recommends parents and children learn about the dangers of drugs at the following web site: www.justthinktwice.com.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, Chief, Criminal Division, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.