



Department of Justice

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AIRLINE PASSENGER INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO SMUGGLE APPROXIMATELY \$1 MILLION WORTH OF HEROIN INTO U.S.

Atlanta, GA - ZANADA MOSES, 24, of Baltimore, Maryland, has been indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of importation of and possession with the intent to distribute heroin. MOSES is expected to be arraigned later this week or early next week.

David E. Nahmias, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, said of the arrest and charges, "The lure of the drug trade is so strong that our investigative agencies detect and arrest people who try to smuggle drugs inside their body, which is incredibly dangerous and can even be fatal to the courier. Strong and effective airport security is a vital component of our national security. This case demonstrates law enforcement's continued vigilance both to protect our borders and to prevent the importation of narcotics into our nation."

"ICE agents work closely with CBP officers to detect and aggressively prosecute those who try to smuggle contraband through our ports-of-entry and think that they can circumvent our immigration and customs laws," said Kenneth Smith, Special Agent in Charge of ICE's Office of Investigations in Atlanta. "Our agents and other partners in the fight against drugs have the technical expertise, resources and technology to detect illegal merchandise and contraband crossing our borders and will simply not tolerate this violation of law."

"U.S. Customs and Border Protection is committed to working with federal, state and local agencies to ensure narcotics and other dangerous goods are interdicted at our ports of entry and narcotics traffickers are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," said Robert C. Gomez, Customs and Border Protection Director of Operations in Atlanta. "This case is an excellent example of how our cooperative efforts are making a difference."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias, the indictment and other information presented in court: On January 15, 2009, MOSES, a United States citizen, arrived at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport after a flight from Panama City, Panama. During a secondary customs inspection, law enforcement officers recovered a total of approximately two pounds of heroin. Some was hidden inside MOSES' body, and some taped to the outside

of her stomach. MOSES stated that she was going to be paid \$20,000 for smuggling the drugs into the United States. The heroin has an estimated street value of \$1,000,000.

The indictment charges one count each of importation of heroin and possession of heroin with the intent to distribute. The charges carry a maximum sentence of up to 40 years in prison and a fine of up to \$4,000,000.

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment contains only allegations. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

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.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Officers of Customs and Border Protection.

Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey W. Davis is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, 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.