



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

**LAWRENCE GANG LEADER PLEADS GUILTY IN
LATIN KING INVESTIGATION**

Boston, MA... A Lawrence man, alleged to be a leader of the Lawrence Chapter of the Almighty Latin King Nation, was convicted today in federal court of conspiring to distribute crack cocaine and of one count of crack cocaine distribution.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett; Kenneth W. Kaiser, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New England; William J. Hoover, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in New England; Colonel Thomas G. Robbins, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; John Romero, Chief of the Lawrence Police Department; Edward F. Davis, Superintendent of the Lowell Police Department; Frank G. Cousins, Jr., Essex County Sheriff; and Kathleen M. Dennehy, Acting Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Correction, announced today that **JUAN CONCE**, a/k/a "King Santos", age 27, of Lawrence, pleaded guilty before Chief U.S. District Court Judge William G. Young to having conspired to distribute crack cocaine and to having distributed crack cocaine on April 17, 2003 in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

CONCE and nineteen other individuals were indicted in February, 2004 following a two-year investigation of drug trafficking by members and associates of the Almighty Latin Kings. According to affidavits previously filed in the case, **CONCE** is alleged to be the Supreme Inca (or head) of the Latin Kings Chapter in Lawrence and a regular trafficker of illegal drugs.

Chief Judge Young scheduled sentencing for September 21, 2004. **CONCE** faces up to 40 years in prison on the drug trafficking charges.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Massachusetts State Police, the Lawrence and Lowell Police Departments, the Essex County Sheriff's Department, and the Massachusetts Department of Correction. The federal cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys assigned to Sullivan's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Unit.

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