

For Immediate Release
January 6, 2012

**FORMER EMPLOYEE OF FARMINGTON PHARMACY PLEADS GUILTY
TO UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in Albuquerque federal court, **Charlton Dann**, 27, of Shiprock, N.M., pleaded guilty to possession of Hydrocodone with intent to distribute under a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office. At sentencing, Dann faces a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment and four years of supervised release. Dann remains on conditions of release pending his sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

Dann was indicted in a two-count indictment on October 26, 2011, and charged with (1) possession of Hydrocodone with intent to distribute, and (2) acquisition of a controlled substance by misrepresentation, deception, or subterfuge. The indictment alleges that Dann committed the offenses on August 29, 2011 in Farmington, N.M.

Court records reflect that, on August 29, 2011, Dann, who was then employed at a Farmington area pharmacy, was involved in an automobile collision. During the investigation of the collision, officers located two pharmacy pill bottles containing a variety of prescription pills in Dann's vehicle. According to a criminal complaint, Dann admitted taking the pills from the pharmacy at which he was employed.

Today, Dann pled guilty to Count 1 of the indictment charging him with possession Hydrocodone with intent to distribute. In his plea agreement, Dann admitted possession of 149 prescription pills containing Hydrocodone recovered by officers on August 29, 2011, when he was involved in a traffic accident. Dann also admitted that he intended to distribute the pills to another person.

Under the terms of Dann's plea agreement, the U.S. Attorney's Office will move to

dismiss Count 2 of the indictment after Dann is sentenced.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that the case was investigated by the DEA and the San Juan County Sheriff's Office, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jack E. Burkhead.

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