## **United States Department of Justice**

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales District of New Mexico



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## <u>DEFENDANTS FROM PREWITT AND GRANTS, N.M., SENTENCED</u> TO PRISON FOR FEDERAL DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENSES

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in Santa Fe, N.M., a federal judge sentenced three defendants to prison based on their drug trafficking convictions. The defendants were among nine individuals who were arrested on October 18, 2010, as a result of a five-month investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services (BIA), that was initiated in May 2010 at the request of the Navajo Nation Department of Public Safety (NNDPS) and for the purpose of combating the growing drug trafficking problem in and around the Navajo Indian Reservation.

**Georgia Goodson**, 37, of Prewitt, N.M., was sentenced to 121 months of imprisonment, while her husband **Michael Goodson**, 48, received a 66-month prison sentence. Both will be on supervised release for five years after completing their respective prison sentences. Georgia and Michael Goodson each entered guilty pleas in January 2012, to all seven counts of a superseding indictment charging them with conspiracy to violate the federal drug laws; three separate distributions of marijuana; two distributions of methamphetamine; and maintaining a place for the distribution of controlled substances.

**Lance Rochlitz**, 29, of Grants, N.M., was sentenced to 41 months of imprisonment based on his guilty plea in December 2011 to Count 4 of the superseding indictment which charged him with distribution of methamphetamine. Rochlitz will be on supervised release for four years after he completes his prison sentence.

Two other defendants charged in the superseding indictment entered guilty pleas in January 2012, and are awaiting sentencing. **Jason Jaramillo**, 33, of Grants, N.M., pleaded guilty to Counts 1, 4 and 6 of the superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to violate the federal drug laws and two distributions of methamphetamine. **Gilbert Aragon**, 34, also of Grants, N.M., pleaded guilty to Counts 1 and 6 of the superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to violate the federal drug laws and distribution of methamphetamine.

The charges in the superseding indictment were the result of "Operation Yé'iitsoh," an investigation brought pursuant to the Native American Project, an initiative sponsored by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

(HIDTA) program and is supported by the DEA's Albuquerque District Office in partnership with the BIA and the NNDPS. Operation Yé'iitsoh also was brought pursuant to the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) program, a nationwide program that combines the resources and unique expertise of federal agencies, along with their local counterparts, in a coordinated attack against drug trafficking and money laundering organizations.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Samuel A. Hurtado and Nicholas Jon Ganjei.

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