



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BARROW MAN SENTENCED AND FORFEITS \$62,500 IN MARIJUANA MAILING CASE

Fairbanks, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that on March 20, 2009, Robert Daniel Lozano, Sr., a resident of Barrow, Alaska, was sentenced in federal court in Fairbanks to 15 months in federal prison for his conviction of attempting to possess marijuana with intent to distribute. Lozano was convicted in January, after a Fairbanks jury found him guilty.

U.S. District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline sentenced Lozano, age 49.

The evidence introduced at trial revealed that on February 4, 2008, Lozano took possession of a parcel, shipped to his Barrow post office box from California, that had originally contained over 10 pounds of marijuana bud. The parcel was intercepted by Postal Inspectors in Anchorage, who discovered the marijuana after obtaining a search warrant for the parcel. The parcel was repackaged and delivered to the Barrow Post Office, where it was picked up by Lozano. Expert testimony estimated the street value of the marijuana shipped from California to range from approximately \$100,000 to \$300,000, depending upon how it was packaged and distributed.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Beistline noted that Lozano had likely engaged in marijuana trafficking for some time, and had finally been caught. In addition to receiving a 15-month prison sentence, Lozano also agreed to the civil forfeiture of a total of \$62,500 in cash, that had been seized in direct connection with the evidence gathered in the criminal investigation.

Ms. Loeffler commended the United States Postal Inspection Service, the North Slope Borough Police Department, and the Alaska State Troopers for their roles in the investigation.

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