

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

***San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt***

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***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U. S. Attorney Andrew G. Schopler (619) 557-5836***

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***For Immediate Release***

### **Complaint Charges Eight with Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine**

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - June 22, 2009

San Diego, CA — United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced the unsealing today of a federal criminal complaint charging eight individuals with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. On June 19, 2009, federal agents searched 16 locations in Escondido, Vista, Pauma Valley, San Marcos, Valley Center and Fallbrook, arresting five of the named federal defendants and two additional suspects who will be prosecuted by state authorities, as well as seizing seven firearms.

Federal court documents unsealed today indicate that the investigation involved numerous seizures of methamphetamine and cocaine, as well as the seizures of firearms (including an AK-47 assault rifle) and narcotics proceeds in excess of \$150,000.

According to the lead prosecutor on the case, Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew G. Schopler, the criminal complaint arose out of a long-term drug trafficking investigation, named "Operation Professor Dickey," which targeted major distributors of methamphetamine and cocaine throughout San Diego County. Operation Professor Dickey is spearheaded by the Drug Enforcement Administration/Narcotics Task Force

(“DEA/NTF”) and is being investigated and prosecuted as part of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (“OCDETF”) program, which was created to consolidate and utilize all law enforcement resources in the nation’s efforts to dismantle major drug-trafficking organizations. In addition to the DEA/NTF, the coalition of investigative agencies that assisted with the case included the Escondido Police Department, the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department, the San Diego Police Department, the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Postal Service, and the U.S. Probation Office.

The defendants were arraigned today before Magistrate Judge Ruben B. Brooks on the criminal complaint and are next scheduled to be in court on Thursday, June 25, 2009.

**DEFENDANTS**

**Case Number: 09MJ1897**

Richard Samuel Perez, Jr.	aka Dickey	
Larry Edward Frank		
*Fernando Guerrero	aka Fern, aka Steve, aka Cuate	<b>*Fugitive</b>
*Victor Trujillo de la Madrid	aka Junior, aka Manny	<b>*Fugitive</b>
Lucio Gutierrez	aka Chris, aka Chacalin	
*Marco Antonio Gutierrez-Munoz		<b>*Fugitive</b>
Luis Andaluz Hernandez		

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine — Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846  
Mandatory Minimum: 10 years. Maximum: Life Imprisonment. Maximum Fine: \$4,000,000

**AGENCIES**

Drug Enforcement Administration/Narcotics Task Force  
San Diego County District Attorney’s Office  
Escondido Police Department  
San Diego County Sheriff’s Department  
San Diego Police Department  
Internal Revenue Service  
U.S. Postal Service  
U.S. Probation Office

**A complaint itself is not evidence that the defendant committed the crimes charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.**