



Department of Justice

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FEDERAL JURY FINDS OSCEOLA COUNTY MAN GUILTY OF PROVIDING SECURITY DURING DRUG TRANSACTION

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that a federal jury late Tuesday found Carlos Marin-Vega, 43, guilty of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute five kilograms of cocaine, attempted possession with intent to distribute five kilograms of cocaine, carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime and possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Marin-Vega faces a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. His sentencing hearing is scheduled for December 18, 2009.

Marin-Vega was initially indicted on July 8, 2009. An additional co-defendant was charged with Marin-Vega in a superseding indictment returned on September 9, 2009.

According to testimony and evidence presented at trial, Marin-Vega provided armed security for a five-kilogram cocaine deal. While co-conspirators of Marin-Vega brought \$130,000 cash to an Osceola County parking lot to purchase the cocaine from a confidential informant working for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Marin-Vega did counter-surveillance and acted as a "lookout." Marin-Vega had a loaded 9mm semi-automatic Smith & Wesson handgun in his possession while he provided security for the drug transaction.

This case was investigated by the DEA and the Osceola County Investigative Bureau (OCIB). Among the task force agents who assisted in the investigation and testified in the case were officers from the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, the St. Cloud Police Department, and the Orlando Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney E. Jackson Boggs Jr.