

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill Middle District of Florida

PHONE: (813) 274-6388 FAX: (813) 274-6300

Orlando Jacksonville Ocala Tampa Fort Myers **CONTACT: WILLIAM DANIELS**

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SIX INDIVIDUALS WITH TIES TO MICHOACAN MEXICO INDICTED ON DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES

Tampa, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces the unsealing of an indictment charging Daniel Fajardo (27), Orlando Ramirez-Arrellano (27), Antonio Barrera-Fajardo (30) and Roberto J. Alonzo-Lopez (24), all of Sumter County, Florida; Juan Carlos Jaimes-Guzman (24, Dallas, TX), Jose Zoto-Perez, (26) and Anna Elisa Gonzalez-Cruz (20), of Atlanta, Georgia, with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. All six defendants each face a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a maximum penalty of life in federal prison for each count. None of the defendants are U.S. citizens and all have significant ties to Mexico or Guatemala.

According to the indictment, from an unknown date until April 14, 2011, Daniel Fajardo's drug trafficking organization sold large quantities of methamphetamine in the Central Florida area. The methamphetamine was transported from Atlanta, Georgia, to Central Florida, several times a week, with the original source of the methamphetamine being Mexico.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until,

proven guilty.

The case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Methamphetamine Task Force, which includes officers from the Tampa Police Department, the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, the Citrus County Sheriff's Office and the Lake County Sheriff's Office, as part of an on-going Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces investigation.