



Department of Justice

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MEXICAN ALIEN SENTENCED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

DAVENPORT, IA—On April 21, 2011, Salvador Mendoza, age 30, was sentenced in federal court in Davenport for conspiracy to manufacture, distribute, and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms and more of cocaine and possession with intent to distribute 500 grams and more of cocaine. The sentencing hearing was held before the Honorable John A. Jarvey, Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. Judge Jarvey imposed a sentence of 180 months in federal prison on each count to run concurrently to be followed by five years of supervised release.

The defendant, an illegal alien from Mexico, was arrested on October 14, 2009, at a trailer home in Washington County, near Riverside, Iowa. He was identified by state narcotics agents as a fugitive from a 2007 drug case that arose in Iowa City. Mendoza had been using multiple identifications. At the Washington County residence, narcotics agents found approximately 3½ kilograms of cocaine, a hydraulic press typically used for compressing cocaine, and other evidence of narcotics manufacturing and distribution. Mendoza was linked to a large-scale cocaine operation that had been operating in the Scott, Johnson, Muscatine, and Washington Counties for several years.

This case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa. The case was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, the Johnson County Drug Task Force, the Muscatine County Drug Task Force, the Louisa-Washington County Drug Task Force, the Iowa City Police

Department, with assistance from the Department of Homeland Security - Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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