RIO ARRIBA COUNTY MAN RECEIVES 60-MONTH PRISON SENTENCE FOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING CONVICTION

Defendant was One of Thirty-Four Arrested in Espanola Valley Drug Sweep in June 2010

ALBUQUERQUE – Today in federal court in Albuquerque, New Mexico, **Patrick Quintana**, 48, a resident of Alcalde in Rio Arriba County, was sentenced to a 60-month term of imprisonment to be followed by four-years of supervised release based on his conviction for conspiracy to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine. Quintana has been in federal custody since his arrest on June 9, 2010.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Quintana was one of 34 defendants indicted on federal and state drug trafficking offenses in June 2010 as part of a Drug Enforcement Administration Mobile Enforcement Team ("MET") operation in the Espanola Valley. The DEA's MET program is a cooperative program with state and local counterparts that was conceived by the DEA in 1995 in response to the overwhelming problem of drug-related violent crime in towns and cities across the nation. The DEA's MET Operation in the Espanola Valley was designed to remove illegal drugs from the streets of Espanola and the surrounding area, and to target and prosecute felons in possession of such narcotics. Twenty defendants were charged federally, and the remaining 14 defendants were charged by Angela R. Pacheco, the District Attorney for the First Judicial District of the State of New Mexico.

On June 8, 2010, Quintana and his co-defendant Alfonso Toya were charged in a four-count indictment with: (i) conspiracy to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine; (ii) two counts of cocaine distribution; and (iii) distribution of methamphetamine. Quintana entered a guilty plea to count 1 of the indictment, the conspiracy count, on November 24, 2010, and

admitted conspiring with others to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine between March 18, 2010 and April 13, 2010. On November 1, 2010, Quintana's co-defendant also pled guilty to count 1 of the indictment, and has been sentenced to a 37-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release. The remaining counts of the indictments against the two men were dismissed after they were sentenced under the terms of their plea agreements.

To date, the following defendants have entered guilty pleas to felony narcotics trafficking offenses in federal cases and have been sentenced:

- Gabriel Mares, 22, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on August 13, 2010, and was sentenced to a 24-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Janette Martinez, 50, of Santa Cruz, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on November 18, 2010, and was sentenced to a 60-month term of imprisonment to be followed by four-years of supervised release.
- Robert Garcia entered a guilty plea on November 3, 2010, and was sentenced to a 30-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Amos Martinez, 52, of Santa Cruz, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on November 4, 2010, and was sentenced to a 37-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Allen Roger Martinez, 50, of Fairview, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on August 9, 2010, and was sentenced to a 46-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Ronald Martinez, 45, of Espanola, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on October 20, 2010, and was sentenced to a 206-day term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Senaida Deaguro, 38, of Espanola, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on October 26, 2010, and was sentenced to a three-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.
- Mark Vigil, 36, of Espanola, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on October 26, 2010, and was sentenced to a 224-day term of imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release.

• Tracy Martinez, 37, of Espanola, New Mexico, entered a guilty plea on October 15, 2010, and was sentenced to a 12-month term of imprisonment to be followed by five-years of supervised release.

The remaining defendants who were charged in federal cases have entered guilty pleas to felony narcotics trafficking offenses and are awaiting sentencing hearings.

These cases were investigated by the DEA MET team with the assistance of federal, state and local law enforcement officers in New Mexico. The case against Quintana and Toya was being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen R. Kotz.

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