

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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MASSACHUSETTS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Huy Hoang Nguyen a/k/a Boston, 27, of Medford, Massachusetts, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 100 kilograms or more of marijuana. The charge carries a mandatory minimum penalty of five years in prison, a maximum of 40 years, and a \$5,000,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy C. Lynch, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant received approximately 600 pounds of marijuana from a Canadian drug trafficking organization, which imported marijuana into the United States from Canada and exported cocaine from the United States into Canada. The marijuana was smuggled into the United States, through ports of entry in the Western District of New York, utilizing hidden compartments in the floors of tractor-trailers. Once the marijuana was in the United States, it was driven to Massachusetts, where it was delivered to the defendant.

Two other members of the same drug trafficking organization, Michael Bagri and Ravinder Arora, have pleaded guilty to their role in the conspiracy. Bagri and Arora admitted to trafficking over 1,600 kilograms of cocaine from the United States to Canada.

“This case was made possible by the tremendous cooperation of law enforcement agencies working throughout the United States and Canada,” said U.S. Attorney Hochul. “Today’s conviction removes yet another player from this international narcotics trafficking operation, which, for a time had been filling the streets of two countries with dangerous drugs.”

The plea is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero, Officers from the United States Customs and Border

Protection, under the direction of Randy Howe, Acting Director of Field Operations, the Peel Regional Police Department, under the direction of Chief H.M. Metcalf, the Canada Border Services Agency, under the direction of Rick Comerford, Regional Director General, Southern Ontario Region and the Toronto Police, under the direction of Chief William Blair.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 26, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Skretny.

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