

# Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.  
Western District of New York

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## **VIOLENT DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN PRISON**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Robinson Sanchez, 33, formerly of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was convicted of possession with intent to distribute over 100 grams of heroin and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, was sentenced to 30 years in prison by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank H. Sherman, who handled the case, stated that the defendant was one five individuals arrested on August 26, 2004, at the Extended Stay America Hotel, on Center Place Drive in Greece, N.Y. In hotel rooms occupied by the group, arresting officers found over 160 grams of heroin, over three kilograms of cocaine, three loaded semi-automatic pistols, \$30,600 in United States currency and various scales, bags and other drug trafficking paraphernalia. In addition to his possession of the handguns located in the hotel room, Sanchez, on a separate occasion, threatened another individual with a handgun in connection with the drug trafficking activity. The defendant, a Dominican national, was living illegally in the United States under the alias of "Guillermo Nieves" at the time of his arrest.

A total of 12 defendants were arrested during the course of this investigation. To date, all have been convicted.

"Drugs and guns and the violence often associated with them have no place on our streets," said U.S. Attorney Hochul. "We, along with our law enforcement partners at all levels, will track down and bring to justice individuals, or groups of individuals, who attempt to infiltrate our neighborhoods and tear at the very fabric of our communities."

The sentencing is the result of an investigation by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force which includes the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the

direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, the Rochester Police Department, under the direction of Chief James Sheppard, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero and the United States Marshals Service, under the direction of Marshal Charles Salina.

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