

# Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Kathleen Mehlretter  
Western District of New York

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## **SYLVIA SENTENCED TO 13 MONTHS IN PRISON**

BUFFALO, N.Y. – **MICHAEL SYLVIA**, 22, of Buffalo, New York, who pled guilty on Oct. 21, 2008, to an Indictment charging him with possession with intent to distribute and distribution of cocaine, was sentenced today to a term of 13 months in prison by U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny, Acting U.S. Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter of the Western District of New York announced today.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas S. Duszkiwicz, who handled the case, stated that the defendant was arrested on Feb. 20, 2008, as a result of an indictment which charged him with selling quantities of cocaine, on Sep. 12, 2007 and again on Nov. 8, 2007, to a confidential informant working for the Drug Enforcement Administration. AUSA Duszkiwicz indicated that the defendant sold approximately an ounce of cocaine for \$1,200, on Sep. 12, 2007, and again approximately an ounce for \$1,200, on Nov. 8, 2007. The defendant was arrested, along with numerous other individuals, in a City-wide joint operation entitled Operation Double Play. AUSA Duszkiwicz also noted that the defendant has sentencing on another drug conviction in Erie County Court and two pending burglary indictments.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Charles Tomaszewski, in collaboration with the NYS Police CNET, and the Buffalo Police Department Narcotics, under the direction of Commissioner H. McCarthy Gipson.