

# PRESS NOTICE

BILL NETTLES  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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**June 7, 2012**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Columbia, South Carolina**---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that MARIO ALBERTO GARCIA, age 26, from Mt. Croghan, South Carolina, was sentenced today in federal court in Florence, South Carolina, for conspiracy to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine and 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten sentenced GARCIA to 200 months imprisonment.

Evidence presented at previous hearings established that GARCIA was arrested as a result of a long-term cocaine conspiracy investigation by the FBI and Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office. In June of 2010, GARCIA and a co-defendant sold cocaine to a confidential informant on three occasions. On July 1, 2010, during the execution of a search warrant at the residence where the

undercover purchases took place, law enforcement found over a pound of marijuana, a pistol and shotgun, and \$46,900. The investigation determined GARCIA and two co-defendants were responsible for trafficking over 35 kilograms of cocaine in the Pageland and Lancaster areas of South Carolina, and Monroe, North Carolina, between 2002 and 2010.

The case was investigated by agents of the FBI and Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorney A. Bradley Parham of the Florence office handled prosecution of the case.

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