



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**John E. Murphy, Acting U.S. Attorney**

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**EL PASO MAN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 27 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON  
FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING**

**John E. Murphy, Acting United States Attorney**, announced that Gabriel Alejandro Mendoza-Lucio, the leader of a cocaine and marijuana trafficking cell based in El Paso, Texas, was sentenced this week to 327 months in federal prison for conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine.

In addition, United States District Judge Frank Montalvo ordered that the defendant pay a \$25,000 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of ten years after completing his prison term.

Over a three-year period, Mendoza-Lucio supervised the sale and shipment of marijuana and at least 150 kilograms of cocaine from El Paso to areas throughout the United States to include Atlanta, Albuquerque, New York City and the state of Pennsylvania. Mendoza-Lucio also supervised the transportation of millions of dollars in drug proceeds from these locations back to persons living and operating out of the Republic of Mexico. Mendoza-Lucio and his organization employed a network of individuals to transport cocaine, marijuana and drug proceeds to and from El Paso.

On February 18, 2009, Mendoza-Lucio pleaded guilty to the drug conspiracy charge.

This case was investigated by the El Paso and Atlanta Field Divisions of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Drug Enforcement Administration together with the Louisiana Department of Safety and Public Corrections and the Bessemer (Alabama) Police Department. This case was prosecuted on behalf of the United States by Assistant United States Attorney John Gibson.

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