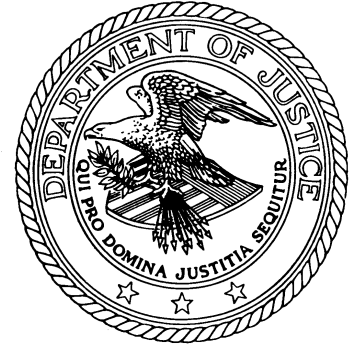


NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

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Laura E. Duffy***

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For Immediate Release

FORMER LEASING MANAGER PLEADS GUILTY TO USING RENTAL TRUCKS TO DISTRIBUTE MARIJUANA

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - January 31, 2011

United States Attorney Laura E. Duffy announced that today David Jeffrey Barragan, the former manager of Penske Truck Leasing, located in Temecula, California, pled guilty in federal court before the Honorable Thomas J. Whelan, United States District Court Judge, to conspiracy to distribute over 1,000 kilograms of marijuana, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846 and 841(a)(1), a ten-year minimum mandatory offense.

According to court documents, in 2008, David Jeffrey Barragan, who was the manager at Penske Truck Leasing, directed others to build secret and hidden compartments inside the trucks for the purpose of transporting narcotics and then directed couriers to transport the marijuana to other locations, including Kentucky, Texas, and Illinois. David J. Barragan also admitted that he created false documents for the Penske truck rentals for the couriers.

Under the terms of the plea agreement, David J. Barragan agreed to a 120-month sentence. He is scheduled for sentencing on April 25, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., before Judge Whelan.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 09cr3134W

David Jeffrey Barragan

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Conspiracy to Distribute 1,000 kilograms of Marijuana, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846
Penalties: 10 year minimum mandatory to life in custody; 5 years of supervised release, \$2,000,000 fine

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

Drug Enforcement Administration
San Diego Narcotics Task Force
United States Marshals Service