

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - September 17, 2012

United States Attorney Laura E. Duffy announced that today United States District Court Judge Marilyn L. Huff sentenced John Francis Bonavita, to serve 12 months and one day, with a split sentence of five months in custody and seven months in a Residential Re-Entry Center for his role in a conspiracy to illegally distribute prescription painkillers, including Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Morphine, Methadone, and Fentanyl in San Diego, CA.

According to court records, Bonavita entered into an agreement, beginning in 2009, to distribute prescription pills with three co-defendants, Michael Andrew Girvin, Larry Ray Martin, and Joseph Andrew Daly. At the time, co-defendants Girvin and Martin were employed at a medical waste disposal company located in Vista, California. The company, then known as Enserv West, LLC, was responsible for processing waste from various medical facilities in San Diego and Los Angeles. Using their positions at the company, Girvin and Martin were able to identify and intercept prescription drugs, slated for destruction, as they arrived at the company's warehouse. Girvin and Martin then separated the more

valuable pills, secretly took them to their vehicles, and then provided them to Bonavita for resale. Bonavita provided Girvin and Martin with payment, and then resold the drugs for further distribution in San Diego. Girvin, Daly, and Martin all pled guilty earlier this year, to separate charges, and received sentences ranging from 12 months custody to 3-years' probation.

According to Bonavita's guilty plea, he was responsible for the distribution of over 12,998 tablets of Hydrocodone (typically sold under the brand name Vicodin), 900 tablets of Oxycodone (typically sold under the brand name Oxycontin), as well as 350 tablets of morphine, and 111 tablets of methadone.

United States Attorney Duffy said, "Prescription drug abuse wreaks havoc in our society. It is particularly tragic when the promise and dreams of our youth fall prey to the nightmare of addiction. Even one black market pill is one too many. We take all such cases seriously and will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law." U.S. Attorney praised the Drug Enforcement Administration for their diligent work in the investigation and dismantling of the conspiracy.

DEFENDANT

Case Number 11-CR-3530-H

John Francis Bonavita

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) and 846 - Conspiracy to Distribute Oxycodone, Morphine, Fentanyl, Hydromorphone, Methadone and Hydrocodone Bitartrate

AGENCY

Drug Enforcement Administration