

Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12/08/08 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/

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TWICE-DEPORTED ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR ROLE IN DRUG CONSPIRACY

Third Conviction for Drug Trafficking Results in Mandatory Life Sentence

Atlanta, GA - OLIVAR MARTINEZ-BLANCO, 31, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, last week by United States District Judge Timothy C. Batten, Sr. on charges of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and attempted distribution of over 15 kilograms of cocaine.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "This defendant was convicted twice before of drug felonies and deported to Mexico, and yet he again illegally reentered the United States to traffic in cocaine. His life sentence is just punishment for his lifetime of criminal conduct and should serve as a warning to those who would sell their addictive poison in our communities."

Rodney G. Benson, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA Atlanta Field Division said, "Drugs have ruined the lives of countless Americans and this is a well deserved sentence for an individual who has been involved in significant illegal narcotics trafficking during his entire adult life."

As a result of his two prior felony drug convictions, MARTINEZ-BLANCO was sentenced to life in prison. There is no parole in the federal system. MARTINEZ-BLANCO was convicted of these charges on September 19, 2008, after a jury trial.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: Federal agents were conducting surveillance of suspected drug traffickers when the Georgia State Patrol stopped a minivan driven by co-defendant VICTOR GILES-MORALES and seized over 15 kilograms of cocaine. During the traffic stop, MARTINEZ-BLANCO, who was in a separate vehicle and acting as a lookout, watched the seizure and arrest of GILES-MORALES and reported the events to the owner of the narcotics. MARTINEZ-BLANCO then drove to the stash house where he picked up over \$800,000 and put it in his trunk. MARTINEZ-BLANCO was arrested a short distance from the residence. Inside the stash house, agents found almost 1,000 pounds of marijuana, 17 pounds of crystal ("ice")

methamphetamine, 2 kilograms of cocaine, and several firearms.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Atlanta recommends parents and children learn about the dangers of drugs at the following web site: www.justthinktwice.com.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Assistant United States Attorneys Mark A. Campbell and William R. Toliver prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.