



Department of Justice

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AIRLINE PASSENGER SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR ATTEMPTING TO SMUGGLE HEROIN INTO THE UNITED STATES

ATLANTA, GA - ZANADA MOSES, 25, of Baltimore, Maryland, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Richard W. Story to serve over 5 years in federal prison on charges of importing heroin into the United States and possessing heroin with the intent to distribute it.

Acting United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the case, "This defendant risked both her life and her liberty when she attempted to smuggle heroin into the United States in her body. Fortunately, the heroin she was carrying was safely recovered and her life was preserved, but she has lost her freedom as a result of her actions, and will now spend over five years in a federal prison."

"Continued vigilance by Customs and Border Protection officers at our ports of entry is instrumental to intercepting and restricting the flow of illicit drugs from crossing the border," said Robert C. Gomez, U. S. Customs and Border Protection Director of Operations in Atlanta. "The important work by these officers is vital to protecting our homeland and demonstrate how our front line officers are doing a great job in making us safer each day."

MOSES was sentenced to 5 years, 3 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. She was also ordered to undergo an intensive drug treatment program. MOSES pleaded guilty to the charges on April 28, 2009.

According to Acting United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: On January 15, 2009, MOSES, a United States citizen, arrived at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport from Panama City, Panama. During a customs inspection, law enforcement officers recovered more than 2 pounds of heroin from in and on MOSES's body. After being advised of her rights, MOSES admitted that she was going to be paid \$20,000 for smuggling the drugs into the United States.

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 Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Officers of Customs and Border Protection.

Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey W. Davis prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, Acting 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.