



Department of Justice

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Northern District of Georgia

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THREE MEMBERS OF NATIONWIDE DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION SENTENCED ON CHARGES OF DISTRIBUTING COCAINE

Defendants Resided in Gwinnett, Coweta and Clayton Counties

Atlanta, GA - MIGUEL SEGURA-FARFAN, 36, of Lawrenceville, Georgia; JUAN CAMPOS-REYES, 28, of Newnan, Georgia; and PORFIRIO AYALA-CASTANEDA, 37, of Riverdale, Georgia, were sentenced to prison today by Senior United States District Judge Orinda D. Evans on charges of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

Acting United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the case, "This prosecution is a prime example of the coordinated and untiring efforts of law enforcement on the state, regional and national levels to bring to justice those who profit from the scourge of illegal narcotics trafficking between Mexico and the United States. We are satisfied that these leaders of the narcotics trade will now serve lengthy sentences in federal prison."

HIDTA Director Jack C. Killorin said, "There has been a good deal of reporting lately about the operations of Mexican drug syndicates in our communities. This sentencing tells the rest of the story - showing how well prosecutors and investigators are doing in identifying those responsible and holding them accountable."

Rodney G. Benson, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA Atlanta Field Division said, "These defendants received significant prison sentences because of their roles as drug traffickers clearly working under the direction of Mexican drug cartel leadership. The substances that they distributed clearly destroyed lives. DEA and our federal, state and local law enforcement counterparts are committed to making our communities safer by removing such drug traffickers from the streets."

SEGURA-FARFAN was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison to be followed by 5 years of supervised release. CAMPOS-REYES was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison to be followed by 5 years of supervised release. AYALA-CASTANEDA was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison followed by 5 years of supervised release. All

three defendants will be turned over to U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement upon completion of their sentences for proceedings to remove them from the United States.

According to Acting United States Attorney Yates, and the information in court: The defendants, originally from Mexico, were part of a drug trafficking organization which, between late 2005 and 2008, distributed hundreds of kilograms of cocaine, as well as significant quantities of methamphetamine and marijuana, in the states of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, California and in the state of Washington.

SEGURA and CAMPOS acted as the organization's Georgia "cell" heads, and AYALA was the group's largest distributor in the Atlanta area. The organization used hidden compartments in automobiles to ship drug proceeds, including firearms and currency, from the Atlanta area to Mexico. SEGURA's residence in Gwinnett County served as a hub for the processing, packaging and shipment of narcotics, U.S. currency, and firearms. A confidential informant tipped investigators to the drug activity, and after a thorough investigation, the co-conspirators were arrested in August 2008 at AYALA's residence in Riverdale.

All three defendants pleaded guilty to their individual charges on September 30, 2009. SEGURA was convicted on charges of Conspiracy to Distribute and to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, and Illegal Reentry by a Previously Deported Alien. CAMPOS was convicted on charges of Conspiracy to Distribute; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, and Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine. AYALA was convicted on charges of Conspiracy to Distribute and to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine; Possession of Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and being an Illegal Alien in Possession of a Firearm.

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

The case was investigated by agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Atlanta High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force ("Atlanta HIDTA").

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Jane Wilcox Swift, who is a Gwinnett County Assistant District Attorney assigned to Atlanta HIDTA and the U.S. Attorney's office.

For further information please contact Sally Quillian 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

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