



**U.S. Department of Justice**

United States Attorney  
Northern District of Illinois

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**ROCKFORD MAN IS SENTENCED AND HIS BROTHER PLEADS GUILTY ON  
FEDERAL DRUG CONSPIRACY AND GUN CHARGES**

ROCKFORD — A Rockford, Ill. man was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Philip G. Reinhard. Marco Brito, 23, also known as “Chino,” was sentenced to 20 years in prison, and 10 years of supervised release following his release from prison for his role in a drug conspiracy in Rockford; as well as 10 years in prison, and 3 years of supervised release following imprisonment, on a related gun charge. The terms are to be served concurrently. Brito has been in federal custody since he was arrested on Oct. 26, 2010.

Marco Brito pled guilty to the charges on Nov. 21, 2011. According to the written plea agreement, from December 2009 through October 2010, Marco and his co-defendant brother, Eriberto Brito, operated an illegal drug-trafficking operation in Rockford, selling 500 grams or more of cocaine and 50 grams or more of cocaine base (“crack”). The plea agreement noted that the brothers sold cocaine and crack to an undercover police officer in Rockford on six occasions through October 2010. Marco Brito also admitted that at the time of his arrest on Oct. 26, 2010, he possessed three handguns and a rifle after having been convicted of a felony. Brito was also ordered to repay \$10,000 in “buy” money used in the undercover operation.

Co-defendant Eriberto Brito, 21, of Rockford, also known as “Betto,” pled guilty to the drug conspiracy charges on February 24, 2012. In his plea agreement, Eriberto also admitted he sold

cocaine and crack to the undercover police officer in Rockford on three other occasions during which Marco was present. Eriberto Brito is facing a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years and up to life in prison, in addition to a maximum fine of up to \$8 million for his involvement in the conspiracy. The Court must impose a reasonable sentence under federal statutes and the advisory United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The sentencing and guilty plea was announced by Patrick J. Fitzgerald, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Jack Riley, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration; and Chet Epperson, Chief of the Rockford Police Department. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives assisted in the investigation. The investigation was conducted under the umbrella of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF).

The government is being represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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