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INDICTMENTS RETURNED IN HAMMOND FEDERAL COURT

Hammond, Indiana- The United States Attorney's Office announced that the following Indictments were returned on August 18, 2011:

Christopher Bunch, 53, of Battleground, Indiana, was charged in an Indictment with ten counts of production of child pornography. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Custom Office of Homeland Security Investigations and the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Koster.

Nick Santana, 29, of Chicago Heights, Illinois, was charged in an Indictment returned on 7/21/11 with one count of conspiracy to distribute over 6000 Vicodin pills without the prescription of a licensed practitioner, one count of affecting the label to cause misbranding and aiding and abetting. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by Drug Enforcement Administration Diversion, the Federal Drug Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Diane Berkowitz.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

The United States Attorney's Office emphasized that an Indictment is merely an allegation and that all persons charged are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.