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WEEK IN REVIEW – SOUTH BEND

South Bend, Indiana -- The United States Attorney's Office announced today that:

PLEAS:

- Nola Forbes, 38, of Elkhart, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of manufacture of marijuana. Sentencing has been set for 5/10/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Indiana State Police. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.
- Kenneth Gaipa, 43, of Elkhart, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to the felony offenses of tax evasion for the calendar years 2008, 2009 and 2010, bankruptcy fraud and social security fraud. Gaipa admitted that he submitted false and misleading records to his tax return preparer which underreported his income to the Internal Revenue Service. He also admitted that in 2011 he misrepresented to the Social Security Administration that he had not worked since February 2006 when in fact he had, and that he had no business or self employment income when in fact he earned substantial income as the owner of Kenneth G Rare Coins and Estate Jewelry. He also admitted that he signed a false petition for bankruptcy by misrepresenting his true financial affairs and concealed assets from the US Trustee and his creditors. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Trustees Office and the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.
- Shayla Montague, 19, of Plymouth, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine in the case *US v Beard et al.* Sentencing has been set for 5/18/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

- Nicole Garcia, 29, of Argus, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine in the case *US v Beard et al.* Sentencing has been set for 5/18/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.
- Alicia Hite, 27, of South Bend, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of manufacture of methamphetamine in the case *US v Beard et al.* Sentencing has been set for 5/10/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the MSOS and the Indiana State Police. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

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.

DISPOSITIONS:

- Justin E. Kemble, 28, of South Bend, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to 38 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offenses of possession of a firearm with an altered serial number, threat of retaliation against a witness and communication of a threat transmitted in interstate commerce. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.
- Stephen Knight, 38, of Michigan City, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 18 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.
- David Weldy, 46, of Elkhart, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 24 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of manufacture of marijuana. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.