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WEEK IN REVIEW – HAMMOND

Hammond, Indiana- The United States Attorney's Office announced the following:

PLEAS:

- Ray Anthony Smith, 36, of Hammond, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to the felony offense of distribution of cocaine. Sentencing has been set for 4/18/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.
- Corey Dawson, 31, of Sauk Village, Illinois, pled guilty before Judge Rudy Lozano to the felony offense of conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute heroin. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Sentencing has been set for 4/24/12. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Chang-Adiga.
- Brandon C. Lee, 34, of Hobart, Indiana, pled guilty Chief Judge Philip Simon before to the felony offense of conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. Sentencing has been set for 4/27/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Indiana State Police and the Porter County Sheriff's Office. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

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:

- Veronica Olvera, 37, of East Chicago, Indiana, was sentenced by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich to one year probation and a fine of \$1000 after pleading guilty to the

felony offense of possession of hydrocodone. Olvera admitted in her plea agreement that she used the DEA registration number of a dentist she worked for to call in a phony prescription for herself to a pharmacy. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Diane Berkowitz.

- Janessa McKinley, 26, of Merrillville, Indiana, was sentenced by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich to one year probation and a fine of \$1000 after pleading guilty to the misdemeanor offense of possession of dilaudid without a prescription. McKinley admitted in her plea agreement that she took two doses of dilaudid from St. Mary's Hospital in Hobart where she worked as a nurse. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Diane Berkowitz.