



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2010  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/law>

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## **REMAINING DEFENDANT IN A MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT**

### *Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force: "Operation Green Snow"*

**LAKE CHARLES, La.** – The remaining defendant in a major drug trafficking organization was sentenced today to 17 ½ years in federal prison, followed by five years supervised release, United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced. Fletcher Freeman, Jr., 37, who has been in federal custody since March 2009, was sentenced by U. S. District Judge Patricia Minaldi, for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and other controlled substances and possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

Freeman and 17 others were previously indicted on a variety of drug trafficking and firearms charges following an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation dubbed "Operation Green Snow." After a five-day trial in November 2009, Freeman was found guilty on one count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and other controlled substances and one count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

The defendant, along with his co-defendants, were part of a cocaine and marijuana distribution enterprise that stretched from Mexico to Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina. Drug loads destined for delivery to these locations passed through the Western District of Louisiana. The drugs were transported in motor vehicles by various couriers and were concealed in batteries modified with hidden compartments, air filter compartments, rocker panels, and other locations within the motor vehicles. Altogether, the organization was responsible for the distribution of approximately 200 kilograms of cocaine.

Twelve of Freeman's co-defendants have been sentenced. One co-defendant has pled guilty and is awaiting to be sentenced in the Southern District of Texas. Four remain at large and are fugitives.

OCDETF is a joint multi-agency group consisting of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies with a cooperative approach to combat drug trafficking, and in this case involved the United States Drug Enforcement Administration - Lafayette, La., Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office, Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, Lafayette Police Department, Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office, Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office, Opelousas Police Department and the Louisiana National Guard.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Brett L. Grayson.

**(See Attached Fact Sheet for Co-Defendant Sentencing Information)**

**FACT SHEET:**

FRANCISCO GERARDO CHAPA-DURAN, a/k/a “Pancho” is still **at large**.

MIGUEL ANGEL PUENTE, pled guilty on January 4, 2008 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy and other controlled substances. He failed to appear at sentencing on May 27, 2010 and is **at large**.

KARLA YVONNE PUENTE-CUELLAR pled guilty in the Southern District of Texas on July 27, 2010 to conspiracy to distribute narcotics, and is **awaiting sentencing**.

JUSTIN MICHAEL GREEN pled guilty on October 31, 2008 to possession with intent to distribute over 500 grams of cocaine, and was **sentenced** on February 26, 2009 to 51 months imprisonment, followed by four years supervised release.

JESSICA AGUIRRE ROSALES pled guilty on November 30, 2007 to possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing cocaine, and was **sentenced** on December 3, 2009 to 14 days imprisonment, followed by four years supervised release.

TIFFANY JOY PENA pled guilty on January 17, 2008 to importation of 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing cocaine, and was **sentenced** on January 14, 2010 to five years imprisonment, followed by four years supervised release.

JULIO CESAR CORTEZ pled guilty on October 21, 2009 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on May 27, 2010 to 10 years imprisonment, followed by five years supervised release.

JOSE LUIS BOSQUES-GUTIERREZ pled guilty on October 29, 2009 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on March 2, 2010 to 20 years imprisonment, followed by five years supervised release.

FIDENCIO OZIEL PEREZ is still **at large**.

ISRAEL ROMERO BAUTISTA pled guilty on October 31, 2008 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on April 2, 2009 to 70 months imprisonment, followed by four years supervised release.

TOMAS SILVA pled guilty on February 25, 2008 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on June 4, 2009 to 20 years imprisonment, followed by 10 years supervised release.

ROBERTO EDUARDO MENDOZA pled guilty on October 30, 2009 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on March 16, 2010 to nine years imprisonment, followed by five years supervised release.

LARRY GONZALEZ pled guilty on October 23, 2008 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on August 26, 2010 to 10 years imprisonment, followed by five years supervised release.

ROBERTO ZAMORA was found guilty following trial on November 13, 2009 of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and other controlled substances and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and was **sentenced** on March 16, 2010 to 15 years imprisonment, followed by five years supervised release.

LEOBARDO ZAMORA is still **at large**.

RAFAEL MOLINA-GARZA pled guilty on August 14, 2007 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy, and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on December 7, 2007 to 4 ½ years imprisonment, followed by three years supervised release.

BRUCE STINSON pled guilty on November 3, 2009 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and other controlled substances, and was **sentenced** on February 4, 2010 to five years imprisonment, followed by three years supervised release.

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