

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Member of Cumberland County Cocaine Trafficking
Network Sentenced to 96 months in Prison

(More)

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CAMDEN – A member of a cocaine trafficking conspiracy that was responsible for the distribution of large quantities of cocaine in the Cumberland County area was sentenced to 96 months in federal prison today to his role in the conspiracy, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

U.S. District Judge Jerome B. Simandle also ordered Dario Trujillo, 26, a Dominican Republic national who was residing in Vineland, to pay a \$15,000 fine and to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials regarding deportation proceedings. Trujillo has been held in federal custody without bail since his arrest on July 27, 2006.

Trujillo pleaded guilty before Judge Simandle on June 4, 2007, to a one-count Indictment, which charged him with conspiring with Felipe Telleria, a.k.a. “Alex,” of Vineland, and others to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine.

At his plea hearing, Trujillo admitted that between September 2005 and July 2006 he agreed with Telleria and others to distribute more than 5 kilos of cocaine in the Vineland area. Trujillo admitted that he obtained kilogram quantities of cocaine from Telleria and others.

A one-count Superseding Indictment returned on July 26, 2006, charged Telleria and Telleria’s associate, Jose Luis Delgado, 22, of Vineland, plus five others with conspiring from July 2004 through July 11, 2006, to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine and 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. Telleria and Delgado were arrested on July 11, in Vineland on an earlier one-count Indictment. Telleria pleaded guilty to the charge contained in the Superseding Indictment on March 9. Delgado’s case is pending. Each of the defendants has been held in federal custody since their arrest.

The case is the result of a long-term investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force.

In determining the actual sentence, Judge Simandle consulted the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited the Special Agents of the DEA, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Gerald P. McAleer in Newark, and Investigators with member agencies of the Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force, under the direction of Cumberland County

Prosecutor Ronald J. Casella, with investigation of the case.

The Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force comprises the Cumberland County Prosecutor's Office, DEA, FBI, ATF, New Jersey State Police, Vineland Police Department, Bridgeton Police Department, Millville Police Department.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Diana V. Carrig of the U.S. Attorney's Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense attorney: David J. Goldstein, Esq. New York