



## U.S. Department of Justice

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced the sentencing in U.S. District Court in Syracuse of a Nedrow woman for drug conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

MICHELLE PAPINEAU, 44, of Nedrow, New York, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Frederick J. Scullin to a term of 41 months imprisonment in connection with her guilty plea to conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute marijuana between August and December 2008. PAPINEAU played a large role in a marijuana conspiracy in which well over 100 kilograms of marijuana was brought from the Akwesasne Mohawk Indian Reservation (AMIR), near the U.S./Canadian border, to the Onondaga Indian Reservation in Nedrow, New York. In her role as a co-conspirator, PAPINEAU admitted, for sentencing purposes, that she received between 80 and 100 kilograms (166 to 220 pounds) of marijuana, which was delivered to her by co-conspirators from the Akwesasne Mohawk Indian Reservation to her residence on the Onondaga Reservation. The marijuana was thereafter distributed, in smaller quantities, to other co-conspirators and to various Syracuse area customers.

After PAPINEAU finishes serving her 41 month sentence of incarceration, she will be placed on supervised release for a period of 3 years. PAPINEAU was also ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100.

The PAPINEAU case investigated by the Syracuse Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Carl G. Eurenus, who can be reached at 448-0672.