



Department of Justice

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Northern District of New York

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HERKIMER COUNTY MAN ARRESTED

FOR MASSIVE MARIJUANA GROW OPERATION

SYRACUSE, NY – Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announces the filing of a Complaint on December 14, 2011 charging Corey Leitz, age 41, of Frankfort, New York, with knowingly and intentionally manufacturing marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance, by growing cultivating, and processing over one thousand (1000) marijuana plants, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(A).¹ If found guilty Leitz faces a mandatory 20 years imprisonment with a potential maximum of life imprisonment. Following his incarceration Mr. Leitz would be subject to a minimum 10 years of supervised release up to life.

On December 14, 2011 DEA and the New York State Police executed a federal search warrant, at 162 McIntyre Road, Frankfort, New York. During the course of its execution investigators discovered over 3,200 marijuana plants growing in a barn located on the property. This represents one of the largest seizures of marihuana plants in the Northern District of New York.

¹ The charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Leitz had his initial appearance on the charge in Syracuse on December 14, 2011 before the Honorable George H. Lowe, United States Magistrate Judge. Leitz was held pending a detention hearing which has been set for December 19, 2011 at 2:00 pm before Judge Lowe.

This prosecution resulted from a joint investigation undertaken by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the New York State Police, and the New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Brown. Further questions may be directed to Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney John Duncan at (315) 448-0672.