



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 18, 2011

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
HERBERT HADAD, ELLEN DAVIS,
JESSIE ERWIN, EDELI RIVERA
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(914) 993-1900, (212) 637-2600

ATF
JOSEPH GREEN
(718) 552-1602

CITY OF NEWBURGH PD
CHIEF MICHAEL FERRARA
(845) 569-7504

**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES CHARGES AGAINST THREE
MEN FOR GUN TRAFFICKING IN THE CITY OF NEWBURGH, NEW YORK**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, RONALD B. TURK, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF"), and MICHAEL FERRARA, the Chief of the City of Newburgh Police Department, today announced charges against three individuals, ERIC SOLIMENE, 34, FRANK BARBARA, 49, and MICHAEL CROUSHORE, 28, for gun trafficking in Newburgh, New York. SOLIMENE and BARBARA were arrested yesterday and today, respectively, in Newburgh. CROUSHORE is currently in state custody on an unrelated case.

According to two Complaints filed in White Plains federal court:

Between on or about April 19, 2010 and on or about April 27, 2010, SOLIMENE, BARBARA, and CROUSHORE conspired to traffic in firearms. Specifically, on three separate occasions, SOLIMENE, BARBARA, and CROUSHORE sold firearms and ammunition to an undercover police officer. The guns that they sold included a Sig Sauer 9-millimeter handgun, a Smith and Wesson .357 caliber handgun, and a Ruger .22 caliber rifle, and the ammunition they sold included hollow-point ammunition. In addition to the gun trafficking charges, BARBARA is also charged with two counts of being a felon-in-possession of a firearm.

BARBARA and SOLIMENE were presented in White Plains federal court before United States Magistrate Judge PAUL E. DAVISON today. SOLIMENE was detained pending a bail hearing, which is set for February 23. BARBARA was also detained.

If convicted, SOLIMENE and CROUSHORE face a maximum of 5 years' imprisonment, and BARBARA faces a maximum 10 years' imprisonment.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of the ATF and City of Newburgh Police Department.

The prosecution is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant U.S. Attorney SARAH R. KRISOFF is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

11-053

###