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**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY CHARGES FUGITIVE DRUG DEALER
WITH CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT TO DISTRIBUTE COCAINE**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and JAMES T. HAYES, JR., the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ("ICE") Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI"), announced today the unsealing of a Complaint charging ANTHONY GONZALEZ, who had been a fugitive since March 25, 2011, with conspiracy and attempt to distribute large quantities of cocaine. GONZALEZ was arrested yesterday in New Rochelle, New York, and was presented in Manhattan federal court earlier today.

According to the Complaint filed in Manhattan federal court:

Between February 2011 and March 25, 2011, ANTHONY GONZALEZ and others conspired to distribute kilogram quantities of cocaine. A Complaint was previously filed charging ROBERTO MARTINEZ, who allegedly participated in the conspiracy with GONZALEZ, with violations of federal narcotics laws.

MARTINEZ was arrested on March 25, 2011, as a drug transaction occurred near a restaurant in the vicinity of Tenth Avenue and West 34th Street in Manhattan. GONZALEZ, who was also involved in that transaction, tried to flee by car. He drove in the direction of two ICE agents, one of whom fired shots at the vehicle GONZALEZ was driving. GONZALEZ then drove over a retaining wall and escaped the scene.

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Mr. BHARARA praised the outstanding investigative work of the New York office of ICE HSI. Mr. BHARARA added that the investigation is continuing.

This case is being handled by the Office's Narcotics Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney MICHAEL FERRARA is in charge of the prosecution.

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

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