



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
YUSILL SCRIBNER,
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600**

**FORMER NYPD OFFICER SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS
IN PRISON FOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that JOSE TORRADO, a former New York City Police Officer, was sentenced today by United States District Judge SHIRLEY WOHL KRAM in Manhattan federal court to 120 months in prison. On March 19, 2007, TORRADO pleaded guilty to participating in a narcotics trafficking conspiracy. According to the felony Information to which TORRADO pleaded guilty, statements made during his guilty plea proceeding, and other documents filed in Manhattan federal court:

TORRADO was an officer in the New York City Police Department's Transit Bureau from July 2001 until November 2006, when he resigned as a result of this case. From about 2002 to September 2005, TORRADO helped his brother, EDWIN TORRADO, distribute large quantities of cocaine and marijuana in the New York City metropolitan area. EDWIN TORRADO pleaded guilty to narcotics trafficking charges in 2006 in a related case brought by the United States Attorney's Office. EDWIN TORRADO was arrested in September 2005, along with several other defendants, when agents from the Department of Homeland Security's United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") seized approximately 135 kilograms of cocaine that were hidden in a false wall of a truck in the Bronx. The investigation subsequently uncovered an extensive drug trafficking network in which hundreds of kilograms of cocaine and marijuana were smuggled into Texas from Mexico and then hidden in trucks and driven to the Bronx and Manhattan.

While he was an active NYPD officer, JOSE TORRADO helped his brother EDWIN TORRADO pick up and distribute cocaine and marijuana. JOSE TORRADO also went with his brother to pick up cash proceeds of drug sales. At times, JOSE TORRADO carried a weapon with him while delivering the narcotics.

In addition to his prison term, TORRADO, 32, was sentenced to 5 years of supervised release.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative work of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.

Assistant United States Attorneys JASON P.W. HALPERIN and BRENDAN R. MCGUIRE are in charge of the prosecution.

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