



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

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**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES EXTRADITION
OF BRITISH NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER FROM SPAIN**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and MICHELE M. LEONHART, Acting Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), announced the extradition of MOHAMMED ZAMEER NABIBUX, a/k/a "Zam" ("ZAMEER"), on charges that he conspired to import heroin into the United States. ZAMEER, 33, a citizen of the United Kingdom, arrived in the United States on Wednesday and made his initial appearance before U.S. District Judge LEWIS A. KAPLAN in Manhattan federal court earlier today.

According to the Indictment and other documents filed in the case:

From July through October 2009, ZAMEER NABIBUX and his father AFZAL NABIBUX ("AFZAL") participated in an international drug trafficking organization with operations in several countries, including countries in Europe, South America, and the Middle East. In September 2009, ZAMEER and AFZAL discussed the shipment of hundreds of kilograms of cocaine from South America to Europe, by airplane and container ship, with two DEA confidential sources who purported to offer narcotics transportation services. ZAMEER and AFZAL subsequently agreed to sell the two confidential sources ten kilograms of heroin to be used as a test shipment, and to consider future ventures if that shipment proved successful. ZAMEER and AFZAL stated that they planned to obtain the heroin from Pakistan and to transport it by plane to Milan, Italy, via Turkish Airlines, concealed in two suitcases.

ZAMEER was arrested by Spanish authorities at the request of the United States on October 14, 2009, when he traveled to Madrid, Spain, to discuss payment for the heroin with one of the confidential sources. AFZAL was arrested two days later, also by Spanish authorities at the request of the United States, when he traveled to Spain to determine what had happened to his son. AFZAL's extradition is pending.

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ZAMEER and AFZAL are each charged with one count of conspiracy to import narcotics into the United States. ZAMEER and AFZAL face a maximum sentence of life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison.

Mr. BHARARA praised the outstanding investigative work of the DEA's Special Operations Division, the DEA's Madrid Country Office, and DEA's Rome Country Office. BHARARA also thanked the Spanish National Police and the Italian Polizia di Stato, Questura di Bologna, and the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs for their ongoing assistance.

The case is being handled by the Office's Terrorism and International Narcotics Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorneys BENJAMIN NAFTALIS and JENNA DABBS are in charge of the prosecution.

The charge and allegations contained in the Indictment are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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