

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

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CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

TONAWANDA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COCAINE AND MARIJUANA TRAFFICKING

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Richard Himbury, 40, of Tonawanda, N.Y., pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute over 15 kilograms of cocaine and 450 kilograms of marijuana before District Judge Richard J. Arcara. The charges carry a minimum penalty of 20 years in prison, a maximum of life, a fine of \$20,000,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael L. McCabe, who is handling the case, stated that on November 15, 2011, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized approximately eight kilograms of cocaine and 100 pounds of marijuana from the defendant's residence on St. Amelia Drive in Tonawanda. The seizure followed a vehicle pursuit of Himbury by federal agents on Route 20-A in Wales, N.Y. There, agents recovered four ounces of cocaine which Himbury threw out his car window during the chase.

The plea is the result of a joint and continuing investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Brian R. Crowell, Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, Investigators from the Buffalo Police Department, under the direction of Commissioner Daniel Derenda, the Lockport Police Department, under the direction of Chief Lawrence Eggert, the Tonawanda Police Department, under the direction of Chief Anthony Palombo, the Amherst Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Askey, the Erie County Sherriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Tim Howard, the Lancaster Police Department, under the direction of Chief Gerald Gill, the Cattaraugus County Sherriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Timothy Whitcomb and the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force.

Sentencing is schedule for December 12, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. before Judge Arcara.

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