Department of Justice

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CANADIAN MAN SENTENCED FOR PRESCRIPTION-PILL TRAFFICKING

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Joseph Julien, 56, of Stevensville, Ontario, who was convicted of conspiring to import OxyContin tablets from Canada into the United States, was sentenced to 24 months in prison by Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael L. McCabe, who handled the case, Julien was arrested on October 12, 2011, following a long-term investigation into the illegal importation of prescription drugs from Canada into the United States. On that date, the defendant delivered 125 OxyContin tablets to Kevin Hinca -- who was also sentenced to 24 months yesterday by Judge Skretny -- at a parking lot on Broadway in Depew, New York. Julien illegally imported OxyContin tablets over the Peace Bridge on multiple occasions which Hinca in turn resold on the street in the Buffalo area.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Brian R. Crowell, New York Field Division.

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