

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

NIAGARA FALLS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that William Nageotte, Jr., 32, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 100 kilograms of marijuana before U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara. The charge carries a mandatory minimum penalty of five years in prison, a maximum of 40 years, a \$5,000,000 fine or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa Marangola, who is handling the case, stated that between September 2010 and April 2011, the defendant transported 20-30 pounds of marijuana every two weeks from the Akwesasne Indian Reservation, in northern New York State, to Niagara Falls.

The plea is the culmination of an investigation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero.

Sentencing is scheduled for April 30, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., before Judge Arcara.

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