

Department of Justice

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NYC WOMAN SENTENCED ON IMPORTATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

BUFFALO, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr., announced today that Miquel Marie-Latoya Smith, 38, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was convicted of importation of a controlled substance, was sentenced to 60 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas S. Duszkiewicz, who handled the case, stated that the defendant imported over 25,000 Ecstasy tablets into the U.S. from Canada. Smith was arrested at the Peace Bridge on February 28, 2010 following a secondary inspection of her Georgia registered vehicle by Customs and Border Protection Officers. A later search discovered thirteen packages containing pink, green and orange tablets containing MDMA and BZP secreted in panels in the trunk of the car with a value in excess of \$629,175. The Ecstasy was destined for distribution in Atlanta, Georgia.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero, and Customs and Border Protection, under the direction of Acting Port Director Randy Howe.

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