

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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WEST SENECA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGE

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Caroline Stuchal, 39, of West Seneca, N.Y., pleaded guilty to possession of half a kilogram of cocaine with the intent to distribute it. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 40 years, a \$5,000,000 fine or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony M. Bruce, who is handling the case, stated that in November 2010, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at the Winchester Grill on Harlem Road in West Seneca. Officers seized more than 500 grams of cocaine which the defendant admitted that her husband, co-defendant Vincent Stuchal, was giving to her to distribute to customers at Chuggers, a West Seneca bar.

Stuchal was arrested in June 2011 along with her husband Vincent who was convicted of the same charge on August 27, 2012 and is awaiting sentencing.

The plea is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Christopher M. Piehota, Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Brian R. Crowell, New York Field Division, and the West Seneca Police Department, under the direction of Chief Edward Gehen.

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