

Department of Justice

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 24, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

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

TWO BUFFALO MEN INDICTED ON DRUG CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal grand jury in Buffalo has returned an 11-count Indictment charging Luis Vazquez, 39, and Antonio Almonte, 55, both of Buffalo, N.Y., with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute heroin. The charge carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years in prison, a maximum of life, a fine of \$10,000,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Catherine Baumgarten, who is handling the case, stated that the defendants were arrested on March 13, 2012 after Special Agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration conducted a search of a vehicle and seized approximately two kilograms of heroin.

The Indictment stems from an investigation on the part of Special Agents and Task Force Officers of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L.Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

####