



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

615 Chestnut Street

Suite 1250

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476

(215) 861-8200

For Immediate Release

December 11, 2008

THREE CHARGED IN DRUG CONSPIRACY

Heroin and cocaine seized worth over \$1million

PHILADELPHIA - Acting United States Attorney Laurie Magid, Special Agent-in-Charge of the DEA, Philadelphia, Timothy J. Ogden, and Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey today announced the filing of a criminal complaint¹ charging Francisco Rodriguez, aka Nelson Ayala-Velazquez, Nicole Alicea, and Jose Velasquez-Olivares with conspiracy, and possession with intent to distribute. According to the criminal complaint, from August 25, 2008 to December 10, 2008, in Philadelphia, the defendants conspired to knowingly possess with intent to distribute one kilogram or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of heroin, a Schedule I controlled substance, and 50 grams or more of cocaine-base, a Schedule II controlled substance. The drugs have an estimated street value of approximately \$2 million in Philadelphia.

"I hope that cases like this remind the public that our efforts to stop the flow of illegal drugs into our region are ongoing and unrelenting," said Magid.

"Successes like this energize and rededicate us to continue our work in keeping drugs out of our communities," said Ogden.

"This is an significant arrest, this investigation shows the citizens of Philadelphia and criminals how closely the Federal government and local police work towards getting illegal drugs and their suppliers off the street," said Ramsey.

According to the affidavit, a police search of the defendants' homes and vehicles resulted in the seizure of: approximately 1837 grams of heroin (powder form) from 2007 Knorr Street; approximately 821 grams of heroin (packaged) from 2216 Glenview; approximately 416 grams of crack-cocaine from 2007 Knorr Street; 96 grams of crack-cocaine from vehicle #1; 75.5 grams of crack-cocaine from 2216 Glenview Street; approximately 875 grams of cocaine (powder form)

¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

December 11, 2008

Page 2

from 2007 Knorr Street; one loaded Ruger 9mm caliber handgun from 2007 Knorr Street together with the crack-cocaine; and \$24,839.00 in U.S. currency. The defendants were arrested on December 10th.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
Francisco Rodriguez	Philadelphia	21
Nicole Alicea	Philadelphia	47
Jose Velasquez-Olivares	Philadelphia	36

If convicted of all charges, each defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of life imprisonment and a mandatory minimum of at least 10 years.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Philadelphia Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Marianne Cox.

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: PATTY HARTMAN
Media Contact
215-861-8525**

*COPIES OF NEWS MEMOS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/pae>*