



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert Pitman
Western District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012

CONTACT: DARYL FIELDS
(210) 384-7440

**FEDERAL AUTHORITIES ARREST MAVERICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER
RODOLFO HEREDIA AND TWO OTHERS IN CONNECTION WITH A
MONEY LAUNDERING AND BULK CASH SMUGGLING SCHEME**

Scheme involved the sale of vehicle to a known associate of the Los Zetas Drug Trafficking Organization

In Eagle Pass this morning, federal agents arrested Maverick County Commissioner Rodolfo Baint Heredia and two accomplices charged in connection with a money laundering and bulk cash smuggling scheme announced **United States Attorney Robert Pitman and Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge Armando Fernandez**.

A four-count federal grand jury indictment, returned yesterday and unsealed today, charges Heredia, age 54, 62-year-old Jose Luis Aguilar of Eagle Pass, and 28-year-old David Gelacio of Eagle Pass, with one count each of conspiracy to commit money laundering; aiding and abetting money laundering; conspiracy to commit bulk cash smuggling; and, aiding and abetting bulk cash smuggling.

According to the indictment, on January 4, 2011, Heredia had Aguilar travel to a ranch in Mexico owned by a known associate of the Los Zetas Drug Trafficking Organization for the purpose of selling Heredia's Ford F-250 King Ranch truck for \$13,000. Following the sale, at Heredia's bidding, Aguilar and Gelacio, carrying \$7,000 cash and \$6,000 cash, respectively, crossed the money from Mexico into the United States via the Eagle Pass Port of Entry. They are alleged to have divided and concealed the money in order to avoid a reporting requirement at the Port of Entry.

Upon conviction, each faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each money laundering-related charge and up to five years in federal prison for each bulk cash smuggling-related charge. All three remain in federal custody pending a detention hearing at 1:30pm on Tuesday in Del Rio before U.S. Magistrate Judge Collis White.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Assistant United States Attorney Michael Galdo is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government. **An indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**

#####