



PRESS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leader of Pill Ring Pleads Guilty to Federal Charges

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA - The leader of a drug organization that brought hundreds of thousands of pain pills to the Ohio Valley pled guilty today in federal court in Wheeling before Judge Frederick P. Stamp, Jr.

United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, announced that **DAVID L. KIDD, II, 43, of Martins Ferry, Ohio**, entered pleas of guilty to one count of “Conspiracy to Distribute Oxycodone and Cocaine”, one count of “Conspiracy to Launder Monetary Instruments”, and one count of “Contempt of Court.” KIDD admitted that he was involved in the distribution of up to 150,000 oxycodone pills that were obtained by him and his group via doctor shopping at pain clinics in Florida and South Carolina.

“We have such a significant problem with prescription pill abuse in West Virginia and it’s because of people like David Kidd,” said Ihlenfeld. “Mr. Kidd, along with doctors and pharmacies from states such as Florida, have helped to fuel the drug problem that we face in the state. We will continue to be aggressive in our enforcement of drug trafficking laws in order to reduce the flow of pain pills into this area.”

As part of his plea, KIDD agreed to forfeit to the United States his interests in \$66,718.65 in United States currency, a Harrington Richardson 32 Smith & Wesson firearm, a 2008 Honda Ridgeline, a 1997 Lincoln Town Car, and three computers.

The “Contempt of Court” charge was filed as a result of KIDD’s flight from the jurisdiction to New Jersey and then to Oklahoma where he was captured after a high speed chase last October.

KIDD, who is in custody pending sentencing, faces up to 40 years and 6 months imprisonment and a fine of \$1,501,000.

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The case was prosecuted by USA Ihlenfeld and Assistant United States Attorney John C. Parr. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the West Virginia State Police-Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the Ohio Valley Drug & Violent Crime Task Force, the Moundsville Police Department, the Marshall County Sheriff's Department, Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division, the Martins Ferry Police Department, the Volusia Bureau of Investigations - Central Florida HIDTA, and the Drug Enforcement Administration in Orlando, Florida. The Ohio Valley Drug & Violent Crime Task Force consists of the Wheeling Police Department, the Ohio County Sheriff's Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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