



Department of Justice

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ORLANDO MEN SENTENCED FOR HEROIN IMPORTATION

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that U.S. District Judge John Antoon, II today sentenced Hector Almedina (25, Orlando) to 8 years, 1 month in federal prison for conspiracy to import heroin, importation of heroin, conspiracy to possess heroin with intent to distribute, and possession of heroin with intent to distribute. Victor Manuel Salgado (27, Orlando) was sentenced to 7 years, 3 months in federal prison for conspiracy to import heroin. The Court also ordered Salgado to forfeit his 2005 Hummer H2, which was used during the conspiracy.

Almedina was convicted by a federal jury on May 4, 2011. Salgado pled guilty on April 26, 2011.

According to the evidence presented at Almedina's trial and in Salgado's plea agreement, on February 24, 2011, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) intercepted a package from Colombia that contained 486 grams of heroin. The package was addressed to Almedina at his residence in Orlando, Florida. On February 25, 2011, an undercover officer delivered the package to Almedina at his residence. Minutes later, Almedina left his residence with the package to deliver it to Salgado for further distribution to other members of the conspiracy.

This case was investigated by CBP, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Roger B. Handberg.