

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2007

Member of Cumberland County Cocaine
Trafficking Network Pleads Guilty

(More)

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CAMDEN - A member of a cocaine trafficking network that was responsible for the distribution of large quantities of cocaine in the Cumberland County area pleaded guilty today to his role in the conspiracy, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Jose Luis Delgado, 23, of Vineland, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Jerome B. Simandle to a one-count Superseding Information, which charges him with conspiring with Felipe Telleria, 34, a.k.a. "Alex," of Vineland, and others to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine. Judge Simandle scheduled sentencing for Sept. 14.

At his plea hearing, Delgado admitted that between July 2004 and July 2006 he agreed with Telleria and others to distribute at least 20 kilograms of cocaine in Vineland. Delgado admitted that he assisted Telleria with obtaining kilogram quantities of cocaine from Telleria's suppliers and in the daily operation of Telleria's drug trafficking organization. Delgado admitted he assisted Telleria's drug trafficking organization by picking up, storing, repackaging and delivering quantities of cocaine; picking up and delivering cash proceeds from the sale of cocaine; and serving as an interpreter for Telleria with Telleria's English speaking customers.

Telleria and Delgado were arrested on July 11, in Vineland on an earlier one-count Indictment. Telleria pleaded guilty to a one-count Superseding Indictment on March 9, which charges conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine and 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. Judge Simandle scheduled Telleria's sentencing for June 29. Each of the defendants has been held in federal custody since their arrest.

The case is the result of a long-term investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force.

The charge of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms of cocaine carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years in prison and a maximum penalty of life, and a fine of up to \$4 million.

Christie credited the Special Agents of the DEA, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Gerald P. McAleer in Newark; and Investigators with member agencies of the Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force, under the direction of Cumberland County Prosecutor Ronald J. Casella, with developing the investigation which resulted in the Superseding Indictment and Indictments.

The Cumberland County Narcotics Task Force is comprised of the Cumberland County

Prosecutor's Office, DEA, FBI, ATF, New Jersey State Police, Vineland Police Department, Bridgeton Police Department, Millville Police Department. Additionally, the Cape May Prosecutors Office, under the direction of Prosecutor Robert L. Taylor, and the New Jersey Department of Human Services Police, under the direction Capt. Glenn Garbarino, were thanked for their assistance in the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Diana V. Carrig of the U.S. Attorney's Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense attorney: Ronald Thompson, Esq. Evesham Twp.