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FORMER LEESVILLE POLICE OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT

Defendant distributed Schedule III controlled substances

LAKE CHARLES, La. - United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced that Charlie Gerard Roman Lopez, 43, of Leesville, La., entered guilty pleas before U. S. District Judge Patricia Minaldi in Lake Charles today, to two drug charges: Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute and Distribution of Dihydrocodeinone and Distribution of Anabolic Steroids.

During the guilty plea, Lopez admitted that he provided Lorcet (Hydrocodone) and Valium (Diazepam) pills two to three times per week, 10 to 15 pills at a time, to the Leesville Police Chief since February 2009. He also admitted to providing Hydrocodone pills to other Leesville police officers. Lopez placed orders via the internet from a vendor outside of the United States for anabolic steroids on six or seven occasions. He also asserted that he received a promotion and overtime authorization for providing pills to the Police Chief.

At sentencing, Lopez faces up to ten years in prison, a fine up to \$500,000.00, and a term of supervised release of not less than two years up to lifetime, per count.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Brett L. Grayson.

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