

Department of Justice

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NIAGARA FALLS MAN CHARGED WITH NARCOTICS AND FIREARM OFFENSES

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal grand jury in Buffalo has returned a three count Indictment against Melvin L. Calhoun, 22, of Niagara Falls, New York, charging him with possession with intent to distribute marijuana, maintaining a drug involved premises, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The charges carry a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison, a fine of \$1,000,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert C. Moscati, who is handling the case, stated that the Indictment charges the defendant with storing and selling marijuana at 119 12th Street, Niagara Falls, New York. On October 1, 2010, local officers and federal agents executed a search warrant at Calhoun's residence and recovered quantities of marijuana, a digital scale, and a .38 caliber pistol from Calhoun's bedroom.

The Indictment is the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Niagara Falls Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Chella, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in-Charge Frank Christiano, and the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Resident Agent in-Charge Dale Kasprzyk.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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