

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 13, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

BATAVIA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Andrew Chapman, 42, of Batavia, N.Y., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Charles J. Siragusa, to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, methamphetamine. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a fine of \$1,000,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brett A. Harvey, who is handling the case, stated that between April 2010 and July 2010, a joint federal, state and local investigation revealed that the defendant was responsible for obtaining quantities of methamphetamine from a supplier in LeRoy and then distributing the methamphetamine with others on numerous occasions.

The defendant received the methamphetamine from Donald G. Vanelli II who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, 500 grams or more of methamphetamine in January 2011. Vanelli was sentenced to 204 months in prison. Donna Boon and David H. Cohen, have been indicted for their roles in the conspiracy and are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The plea is the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special-Agent-In-Charge Christopher M. Piehota, the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, under the direction of Sheriff Gary T. Maha, the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, the New York State Police, under the direction of Superintendent Joseph D'Amico, the City of Batavia Police Department, under the direction of Chief Randy Baker, and the Village of LeRoy Police Department, under the direction of Chief Christopher K. Hayward.

Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 17, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. before Judge Siragusa.

####