

Department of Justice

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 21, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

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

FOUR NIAGARA COUNTY RESIDENTS ARRESTED, INDICTED ON METHAMPHETAMINE AND FIREARMS CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal grand jury in Buffalo has returned an Indictment charging Jason Hannon, 37, Roberta Hannon, 44, Robert Gardiner, 28, and Keith Crossley, 38, all of the Town of Niagara, N.Y., with conspiring to manufacture methamphetamine, using and maintaining a place for the purpose of manufacturing, distributing and using methamphetamine, and possessing equipment, chemicals, products and materials which may be used to manufacture methamphetamine. Jason Hannon is also is charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

The conspiracy and drug related charges carry a penalty of up to 40 years in prison, a fine of \$5,000,000 or both. The firearm and ammunition possession charges carry a penalty of up to 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Catherine Baumgarten, who is handling the case, stated that the defendants were arrested during the execution of a search warrant of a mobile home at 314 Quain Place, Town of Niagara, on May 3, 2011. During the search, law enforcement officers found an active methamphetamine production - or "cook" - in process, along with the loaded shotgun, ammunition, chemicals required in the manufacture of methamphetamine, waste products from the manufacturing process, and drug paraphernalia.

The defendants were arraigned this morning before U.S. Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder, Jr. They are being detained and will return to court June 27, 2012 at 2:30 p.m.

The Indictment is the result of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, and members of the Niagara County Drug Task

Force, under the direction of Sheriff James Votour.

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.

###