

Department of Justice

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LANCASTER MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRING TO IMPORT PRESCRIPTION DRUGS INTO THE UNITED STATES

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Kevin Hince, age twenty-three (23), of Lancaster, pleaded guilty in federal District Court today to conspiring to import OxyContin from Canada into the Buffalo region during September and October 2011.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michael L. McCabe, who prosecuted the case, Hince was originally arrested on October 12, 2011, following a long-term investigation into the illegal importation of prescription drugs from Canada into the United States. On that date, Hince took delivery of 125 OxyContin tablets at a parking lot on Broadway in Depew, New York. These tablets were illegally imported into the United States over the Peace Bridge earlier in the day on October 12, 2011. Hince had similarly obtained illegally imported OxyContin tablets on three (3) previous occasions. Hince in turn resold these OxyContin tablets on the street.

The plea carries a maximum penalty of twenty (20) years in prison, a fine of \$1,000,000 or both.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division.

Sentencing is scheduled for July 27, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. before Chief District Judge William M. Skretny.