

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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TWO MEN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH SELLING OXYCODONE

BUFFALO, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Joseph Julien, 56, of Stevensville, Ontario, and Kevin Hince, 20, of Depew, N.Y., were arrested and charged by Criminal Complaint with possession with intent to distribute and distribution of oxycodone, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute oxycodone, importation of oxycodone into the United States and conspiracy to import oxycodone into the United States. Each charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine up to \$1,000,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael L. McCabe, who is handling the case, stated that in April 2011, the Drug Enforcement Administration began an investigation into the large scale trafficking of prescription medication from Canada into the Buffalo area. According to the Complaint, between September and October, 2011, the DEA utilized a confidential source to make three undercover purchases of 140 pills from Kevin Hince. Also according to the Complaint, Hince was getting the pills from Joseph Julien. It is estimated that Julien provided at least 10,000 pills for distribution in the Buffalo area over the last year.

Hince and Julien made an initial appearance before Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder, Jr. this morning. Judge Schroeder ordered the defendants to be detained. Julien is scheduled to appear in court on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

The Complaint is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge James C. Spero, the Lancaster Police Department, under the direction of Chief Gerald Gill, the Amherst Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Askey, the Buffalo Police Department, under the direction of Commissioner Daniel Derenda, and the Erie County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Timothy Howard.

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.