

# Department of Justice

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

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## **SOUTHERN TIER MAN SENTENCED ON DRUG CHARGES**

BUFFALO, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Ronald E. Jolls, 55, of South Dayton, N.Y., who was convicted of manufacturing marijuana, was sentenced to 46 months in prison and three years supervised released by Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny. Judge Skretny also ordered Jolls to forfeit \$87,536 in cash as well as various property, including a 2009 Jeep Cherokee, a Case/Harvester tractor, and a trailer, all valued at \$53,564. In addition, Jolls was ordered to forfeit six firearms and ammunition.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas S. Duszkievicz, who handled the case, stated that the defendant manufactured 100 or more marijuana plants on his property in South Dayton. The marijuana growing operation was observed by the NYS Police Aviation Unit working in conjunction with ground eradication teams. Follow-up investigation by the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force and Drug Enforcement Administration located 439 marijuana plants in four separate well-tilled and cultivated plots enclosed by electronic fencing. During the execution of a search warrant inside the residence, officers recovered four pounds of packaged marijuana, six loaded firearms and 67 starter marijuana plants.

The sentencing is the result of an investigation by the NYS Police Aviation Unit, under the direction of Major Christopher Cummings, the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division.