

# Department of Justice

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

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## NORTH CAROLINA MAN SENTENCED ON COCAINE CHARGES

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Kelvin Mitchell a/k/a "Cali", 43, of Greensboro, North Carolina, who was convicted of conspiracy to distribute cocaine, was sentenced to 240 months in prison and 10 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas E. Gregory, the sentencing of Mitchell marks the close of a multi-agency investigation into a large scale drug trafficking organization with links to Mexican suppliers in Southern California, Arizona and Texas. In 2008, state and federal law enforcement officers utilized a wiretap to obtain evidence leading to the dismantling of the criminal organization, resulting in the seizure of 14 kilograms of cocaine, approximately \$50,000 cash and several firearms.

The investigation resulted in the arrests of nine individuals, including Kelvin Mitchell, who personally oversaw the cross-country transportation and local distribution of hundreds of kilograms of cocaine obtained from a Mexican source of supply named Jeziel Beltran. All nine individuals have been convicted by the United States Attorney's Office.

"The successful conclusion of this case should serve as a warning to any individuals or organization who may consider similar criminal activity," said U.S. Attorney Hochul. "Our Office, along with our federal, state and local law enforcement partners, will not tolerate the spread of illegal narcotics on the streets of our community. We will use every tool at our disposal to investigate and prosecute such cases to the fullest extent of the law."

The sentencing is the culmination 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, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Scott Heagney, and the Rochester

Police Department, Special Investigations Section, under the direction of Chief James Sheppard.