

# Department of Justice

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2011  
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## **TWO DEFENDANTS CONVICTED OF SELLING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS** **SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON**

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Bradley Puskar, 22, of West Seneca, New York, and Atiya Johnson, of Buffalo, New York, who were convicted of conspiring to distribute OxyContin pills in the City of Buffalo, were sentenced to federal prison. District Judge Richard J. Arcara sentenced Puskar to 21 months in prison and Chief District Judge William M. Skretny sentenced Johnson to three years in prison.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael L. McCabe, who handled the case, Johnson was a significant distributor of OxyContin tablets in the City of Buffalo. OxyContin is a popular brand-name for tablets containing oxycodone, a powerful and potentially addictive pain killer. Johnson sold over 500 OxyContin tablets to other drug dealers, who then redistributed the drugs in the Cheektowaga and Lancaster areas. Puskar was also an OxyContin dealer in Buffalo, who sold pills to an undercover officer from the Buffalo Police Department on four occasions between February and April 2010.

Puskar and Johnson were arrested along with 24 others in July, 2010. To date, 18 of the 26 defendants have been convicted.

The sentencings are 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 in conjunction with many local and state authorities such as the New York State Police, the Buffalo Police Department, the Cheektowaga Police Department, the West Seneca Police Department and the Lancaster Police Department.