

# Department of Justice

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

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## **THREE MEN FOUND GUILTY OF MARIJUANA CONSPIRACY**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal jury in Rochester found Allan J. Snyder (36), Allen J. Snyder (63), and Michael Welch (37) guilty of conspiring to manufacture marijuana and to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute marijuana.

Assistant United States Attorney Everardo Rodriguez, who handled the prosecution and who tried the case along with Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Noto, stated that Allan Snyder, together with his father Allen Snyder and his brother Michael Welch, were part of a group that grew and distributed marijuana in Wayne and Cayuga Counties. The group started the plants inside and, in the warmer months, moved them outside to grow. Eventually, the plants were harvested, packaged and sold. During the course of the investigation, two large marijuana grow locations were discovered in Wayne County.

The investigation was conducted by the Wayne County Narcotics Enforcement Team under the direction of John Colella, Chief of the Town of Macedon Police Department and Robert Hetzke, Chief Deputy of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, the Wayne County Sheriff's Office under the direction of Sheriff Barry Virts, the New York State Police, under the direction of Mark A. Koss, the Rochester Office of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration under the Direction of Resident Agent in Charge Timothy Kernan, and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation.

The convictions against Allan Snyder and Michael Welch carry a minimum term of imprisonment of ten years and a maximum of life in prison and a maximum

fine of four million dollars. The conviction against Allen Snyder, the father, carries a maximum sentence of imprisonment of 20 years and a maximum fine of one million dollars. Sentencing for Allen Snyder (father) is scheduled for September 10, 2012 at 4:00 p.m., Allen Snyder (son) is scheduled for September 6, 2012 at 10:45 a.m., and Michael Welch is scheduled for September 12, 2012 at 2:15 p.m.

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