

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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WEST SENECA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGES

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Vincent Stuchal, 47, of West Seneca, N.Y., pleaded guilty to possession of half a kilogram of cocaine with the intent to distribute it. The charge carries a minimum penalty of five years in prison, a maximum of 40 years, a \$5,000,000 fine or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony M. Bruce, who is handling the case, stated that in November 2010, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at the Winchester Grill on Harlem Road in West Seneca. Officers seized more than 500 grams of cocaine which the defendant admitted he intended to distribute.

Stuchal was arrested in June 2011 along with his wife. Charges are still pending against Caroline Stuchal. 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.

The plea is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Christopher M. Piehota, Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Brian R. Crowell, New York Field Division, and the West Seneca Police Department, under the direction of Chief Edward Gehen.

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