

Department of Justice

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 05, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

ROCHESTER MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CONSPIRACY

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Levon Sturgis, 40, of Rochester, N.Y., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Charles J. Siragusa to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine, 50 grams or more of cocaine base, and one kilogram or more of heroin. The drug conspiracy charge carries a maximum penalty of life in prison, a fine of \$8,000,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer M. Noto, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant was involved in a drug conspiracy that was responsible for the distribution of large amounts of cocaine, crack cocaine and heroin in the Rochester area between 2008 and 2010. The defendant and eleven others were arrested in 2010 after a year-long investigation conducted by Federal and State authorities. Sturgis is the 10th defendant to be convicted in the case.

The plea is the culmination of a multi-agency investigation under the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) initiative. Federal and State law enforcement agencies, including Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearm and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Scott Heagney, Special Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer, Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division, Special Agents of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service, under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Charles R. Pine, and officers from the Greater Rochester Area Narcotics Enforcement Team, under the direction of Lt. Joseph Morabito worked in concert with the United States Attorney's Office in the year-long investigation

Sentencing is scheduled for Apr. 3, 2011, at 3:15 a.m. EST, in Rochester, N.Y., before Judge Siragusa.