

# Department of Justice

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

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## NIAGARA FALLS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO GUN CHARGE

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Melvin L. Calhoun, 23, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara to possession of a firearm while an unlawful user of a controlled substance. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert C. Moscati, who is handling the case, stated that on October 1, 2010, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at the defendant's residence in Niagara Falls. At that time, Calhoun was in possession of a .38 caliber pistol. Officers also recovered quantities of marijuana and a digital scale from Calhoun's bedroom.

The plea is the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Niagara Falls Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Chella, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in-Charge Frank Christiano, and the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Wilbert L. Plummer,  
Acting Special Agent in Charge, New York Field Division.

Sentencing is scheduled for August 31, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. before Judge Arcara

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