

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill Middle District of Florida

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DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION, WITH TIES TO MEXICO, INDICTED ON CHARGES INVOLVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF METHAMPHETAMINE

Tampa, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces the indictment charging Daniel Fajardo (age 27, Sumter County, FL), Orlando Ramirez-Arrellano (age 27, Sumter County, FL), Jose Zoto-Perez, (age 26, Atlanta, GA), Juan Carlos Jaimes-Guzman, (age 24, Dallas, TX), Antonio Barrera-Fajardo, (age 30, Sumter County, FL), Roberto J. Alonzo-Lopez, (age 24, Sumter County, FL), Anna Elisa Gonzalez-Cruz (age 20, Atlanta, GA), Danielle T. Davis, (age 39, Sumter County, FL), Zachary James Loyselle, (age 23, Sumter County, FL). Rafael Alexander Rodriguez- Murrillo, (age 30, Atlanta, GA), Rebecca Ann Schott, (age 30, Sumter County, FL), Enrique Fajardo-Arrellano, (age 39, Sumter County, FL), Feligonio Abiles-Rebollar, (age 38, Sumter County, FL), Juan Carlos Tinoco-Fajardo... (age 19, Sumter County, FL), Matthew Leon Brewer, (age 38, Sumter County, FL), Bethany Faye Beaty, (age 21, Sumter County, FL), Celinda Kay Matamoros, (age 50, Sumter County, FL), William Leon Shaw, (age 42, Sumter County, FL), Jose William Castaneda, (age 31, Sumter County, FL) and Josue Aleman-Valdez, a/k/a Gabino (age 36, Atlanta, GA), with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Each of the twenty defendants are facing a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment and a maximum penalty of life in federal prison for each count. Twelve out of the twenty defendants are not U.S. citizens and have significant ties to Michoacan, Mexico.

According to the third superseding indictment, from an unknown date until the date of the third superseding indictment, July 28, 2011, this drug trafficking organization sold large quantities of methamphetamine in the Central Florida area. The methamphetamine originated in Mexico and was transported through Texas to Georgia. From there it was sent by Josue Aleman-Valdez, aka Gabino, via couriers, from Atlanta, Georgia to Central Florida, several times a week. It was then distributed to other members of the drug trafficking organization operating in Central Florida and listed in the indictment.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

The case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Methamphetamine Task Force, which includes officers from the Tampa Police Department, the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, the Citrus County Sheriff's Office and the Lake County Sheriff's Office, as part of an on-going Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces investigation. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Maria Chapa Lopez.