



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 17, 2009**

**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
YUSILL SCRIBNER,
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL
JANICE OH
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600**

**FBI
JIM MARGOLIN, MONICA McLEAN
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 384-2720, 2715**

**ICE
LOU MARTINEZ
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(646) 313-2716**

**EIGHT CHARGED WITH NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING
AND OTHER OFFENSES**

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JOSEPH M. DEMAREST, JR., the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and PETER J. SMITH, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE"), announced the filing yesterday of an Indictment charging HUSNAIN RAZA HUSSAIN, a/k/a "Raza Hussain," a/k/a "Qazi," a/k/a "Quazi," SHAKESQUE D. SINGLETARY, a/k/a "Shah," GUSTAVO CANALES, a/k/a "Gustav," a/k/a "Goose," RAYMOND ESPINAL, ALEX SANCHEZ, ELIGIO MARQUEZ, a/k/a "Eli," a/k/a "E," AHMED SOHAIL, and ADNAN SHAH with various narcotics and firearms trafficking charges. In addition, HUSSAIN is also charged with attempting to travel to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in order to engage in a sexual act with a person under eighteen years of age.

All the defendants except MARQUEZ were arrested on May 18, 2009, pursuant to criminal Complaints filed in Manhattan federal court; MARQUEZ was arrested on May 20. HUSSAIN, CANALES and MARQUEZ were ordered detained pending trial; the remaining defendants were released on bail. The defendants are expected to be arraigned on the Indictment in Manhattan federal court by United States District Judge PAUL A. CROTTY on July 23, 2009, at 2 p.m.

The Indictment filed today charges HUSSAIN, 37, of Yonkers, New York, SINGLETARY, 31, of Manhattan, New York, CANALES, 31, of Bronx, New York, ESPINAL, 31, of Bronx, New York, SANCHEZ, 36, of Yonkers, New York, MARQUEZ, 27, of Hillside, New Jersey, SOHAIL, 43, of Queens, New York, and SHAH, 37, of East Haven, Connecticut, with the following offenses, carrying the following potential penalties:

Count	Charge	Defendants	Maximum Penalty
1	Conspiracy to distribute heroin	HUSSAIN, SINGLETARY	40 years in prison
2	Conspiracy to distribute heroin and cocaine	HUSSAIN, CANALES, ESPINAL, SANCHEZ, MARQUEZ, SOHAIL	Life in prison
3	Conspiracy to import heroin	HUSSAIN, SOHAIL	Life in prison
4	Attempted heroin distribution	MARQUEZ	40 years in prison
5	Conspiracy to illegally transfer firearm	HUSSAIN, SHAH	Five years in prison
6	Attempt to travel internationally to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a minor	HUSSAIN	30 years in prison

Mr. DASSIN praised the investigative work of the FBI and ICE.

Assistant United States Attorneys JASON B. SMITH and NICHOLAS J. LEWIN are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Complaints and Indictment are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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