



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Robert Pitman, U.S. Attorney

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February 15, 2012

FOUR TEXAS SYNDICATE MEMBERS INDICTED ON FEDERAL CONSPIRACY CHARGE

United States Attorney Robert Pitman, DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Mauricio Fernandez, U.S. Marshal Robert Almonte, ATF Acting Special Agent in Charge Gary Orchowski, IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge Steve McCullough, Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reed, Bexar County Sheriff Amadeo Ortiz and San Antonio Police Chief William McManus announced that four members of the Texas Syndicate are in federal custody charged with conspiracy to commit murder.

Arrested this morning by federal, state and local law enforcement in San Antonio include: 57-year-old Rudy "Pisto" Delgado; 32-year-old Mark Mena; and, 27-year-old Mark "Dirty Boy" Nuncio. A fourth defendant, 26-year-old Manuel Mancha, was already in federal custody on a related matter prior to today.

The conspiracy-to-commit-murder count is contained in a superseding indictment returned yesterday and unsealed this afternoon. The superseding indictment alleges that Delgado, Mena, Nuncio and Mancha, met at a local bar on December 4, 2011, to discuss a murder scheme to be carried out for the purpose of gaining entrance to, maintaining or increasing position in the Texas Syndicate.

The superseding indictment also incorporates the charges contained in the original indictment returned on December 7, 2011. That indictment charged 17 Texas Syndicate members, including Mancha, with violating the federal Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organization (RICO) statute alleging responsibility for four murders, three attempted murders and drug distribution.

Today's arrests are a result of an ongoing investigation into the San Antonio area Texas Syndicate being conducted by agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration and its Task Force; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation; United States Marshals Service; Bexar County Sheriff's Office, Bexar County District Attorney's Office, and the San Antonio Police Department. The DEA Task Force is comprised of members of the Comal County Sheriff's Office, Balcones Heights Police Department, Kendall County Sheriff's Office, New Braunfels Police Department, Guadalupe County Sheriff's Office, Terrell Hills Police Department, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Inspector General; and the Texas National Guard.

Upon conviction, the defendants face up to life in federal prison. Assistant United States Attorneys Joey Contreras and Karen Norris are prosecuting these cases on behalf of the Government.

An indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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