



William J. Ihlenfeld, II, United States Attorney  
 Captain James H. Merrill, WVSP  
 Kenneth A. Winkie, Group Supervisor, DEA

Ohio County Sheriff Patrick Butler  
 Wheeling Police Chief Robert G. Matheny

---

Contact: Fawn E. Thomas, Public Affairs Specialist • Phone: 304-234-7709 • Fax: 304-234-0110 Web Site: [www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvn/](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvn/)

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 6, 2011**

## **Initial Cases Indicted in MHIT Initiative**

**WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA** — A Federal Grand Jury sitting in Wheeling, West Virginia, returned two separate Indictments today (April 6, 2011) in connection with the Mountaineer Highway Interdiction Team Initiative.

United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, announced that:

**JUSTIN LEE NASH**, age 27, of Moundsville, West Virginia, was named in a three-count Indictment. Count One of the Indictment alleges that NASH conspired to distribute heroin and marijuana from 2009 to January 9, 2011, in Moundsville. Count Two of the Indictment alleges that NASH traveled in interstate commerce between Turtle Creek, West Virginia, and Benwood, West Virginia, with the intent to conspire to distribute heroin. Count Three of the Indictment alleges that NASH possessed heroin with the intent to distribute on January 9, 2011, in Benwood.

If convicted, NASH faces a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000,000 on the conspiracy count; a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 on the travel count; and a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment and a fine of \$500,000 on the possession count.

**ROLANDO MERIDA GUITERREZ**, also known as “PABLO CHAIN-RUIZ,” age 25, was named in a one-count Indictment. The Indictment alleges that GUITERREZ, an alien, was found in Ohio County, West Virginia, on March 14, 2011, after having been previously deported and not having obtained the express consent of the Secretary of Homeland Security nor the Attorney General to reapply for admission to the United States.

If convicted, GUITERREZ faces a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

"Without a team concept and a goal to do the right thing, these Indictments would not have been possible. We must continue to do quality police work, protecting the rights of all and work together to combat crime. It is imperative that we continue to train, educate the public and focus on ways to make our children safe from criminal enterprise," stated West Virginia State Police, Troop 1 Commander Captain James Merrill.

- MORE -

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Page 2**

**April 6, 2011**

**The cases will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John C. Parr. The cases were investigated by the Mountaineer Highway Interdiction Team (MHIT), which includes the Drug Enforcement Administration, the West Virginia State Police, the Ohio County Sheriff's Department, the Wheeling Police Department and the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District.**

**It should be noted that the charges contained in the Indictments are merely accusations and not evidence of guilt, and that each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.**

**- END -**