

Southern District of West Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 13, 2010 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvs/ CONTACT: Tracy Dorsey Chapman 800-659-8726*(304)345-2200 Tracy.Chapman@usdoj.gov

TWO SENTENCED TO PRISON ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

HUNTINGTON, W. Va. – Two were sentenced to prison yesterday on unrelated federal drug charges. Clarence Allen Torres, 41, of Detroit, Michigan, was sentenced by United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers to 121 months in prison for possession with intent to distribute cocaine base. Torres previously pleaded guilty in March 2010, admitting he possessed 19.6 grams of crack cocaine, part of which he intended to distribute. The conviction stems from a traffic stop conducted by a Huntington police officer. After a K-9 alerted the officer that illegal drugs were present, the officer located the cocaine base. Torres admitted his intent to distribute at least five grams of the crack cocaine. According to court documents, Torres also admitted that over \$38,000 in cash found by law enforcement was derived from unlawful activity. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Drug Enforcement Administration assisted the Huntington Police Department in the investigation.

Also in Huntington yesterday, Nicholas Divita, 31, of Huntington, was sentenced by Judge Chambers to 46 months in prison for possession with intent to distribute cocaine. On March 14, 2009, Putnam County Sheriff's deputies stopped Divita near Teays Valley, West Virginia and located approximately 168 grams of powder cocaine. Subsequently, a search of Divita's residence yielded an additional 447 grams of cocaine. As part of his plea agreement, Divita stipulated that he sold cocaine from late 2007 until his arrest in March 2009. The Metropolitan Drug Enforcement Network Team, Putnam County Sheriff's Office and the Huntington Police Department jointly conducted the investigation.

###