



Department of Justice

Office of the United States Attorney Western District of Wisconsin

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Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Ken Jessick, 51, Baraboo, Wis., and Maciel Nino-Rodriguez, 29, Madison, were each sentenced on August 6, 2009, by U.S. District Judge Lynn Adelman to 40 months in prison for conspiracy to possess cocaine with intent to distribute. Jessick and Nino-Rodriguez both pleaded guilty to this charge on May 14, 2009.

Between February 2007 and February 2009, the defendants were involved in a cocaine distribution conspiracy with Jerome Worzalla and others. Jessick, Nino-Rodriguez and Worzalla transported multiple kilograms of cocaine from Illinois to Sun Prairie and the Town of Hampden, Columbia County, where it was divided into smaller quantities and re-sold to customers. On February 4, 2009, law enforcement officers executed search warrants at two locations where they recovered cocaine, firearms, and \$46,676 in cash. A grand jury returned an eighteen count indictment on February 18, 2009, against Worzalla, Jessick and Nino-Rodriguez.

Worzalla pleaded guilty for his role in the case and is scheduled to be sentenced on September 21, 2009. Because Worzalla sold cocaine from his property on Arnold Road in Columbia County, the United States is seeking to forfeit that property on September 21, 2009, after which it will be sold at auction by the U.S. Marshal's Service.

The charges against Jessick and Nino-Rodriguez were the result of an investigation conducted by Columbia County Sheriff's Department, Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force, and Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

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