

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2010

Attorney General Corbett announces arrests in \$2.2 million cocaine & marijuana ring

HARRISBURG – One of the largest cocaine and marijuana operations to ever operate in the Lackawanna County area was broken-up today by state narcotics agents.

Attorney General Tom Corbett said the investigation, known as "Operation Rewind" began in January 2009 and focused on an organization that allegedly distributed \$2.2 million worth of cocaine and half a million dollars worth of marijuana throughout Lackawanna County.

As the investigation unfolded, nine court-authorized wiretaps were approved to determine the scope of the organization and help identify distributors.

According to the criminal complaint, Robert "Light" Larkin of Seacaucus, New Jersey, supplied local individuals, Rafael Rios and Angela Rosado with large amounts of cocaine and marijuana.

Corbett said that Caheim Drake, William Staton, Louie Cuadrado and Kalen Bell allegedly operated below Rios and Rosado and regularly distributed drugs throughout Lackawanna County.

"Our agents worked up the supply ladder and targeted more than just typical street-level dealers," Corbett said. "Mid-level dealers consistently received quantities of drugs from Rios and Rosado, and then supplied their own lower-level customers, who dealt in smaller quantities across the county."

Corbett said lower-level dealers were identified as Keith Cardone, Corey Hockman, Josephy Merryfield, Sandra Lopez, James Brown, Raphael Eisenhauer, Shane Vonsee, David Krzyna, Megan Harp, Oneil Latchman, Enrique Sandiford and David George Jr.

Over the course of the investigation agents made a series of controlled purchases for approximately 20 ounces of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$56,000. Agents also purchased one pound of marijuana.

A series of search warrants were executed on Dec. 6, 2009 and agents seized more than a quarter kilogram of cocaine, three vehicles and approximately \$15,000 cash.

Corbett noted that this is part of an ongoing investigation and additional arrests are anticipated.

Corbett thanked Lackawanna County District Attorney Andrew Jarbola, Jr.'s office, the Scranton Police Department, Pennsylvania State Police and DEA for their assistance with the investigation.

The case will be prosecuted in Lackawanna County by Senior Deputy Attorney General Lawrence Cherba of the Attorney General's Drug Strike Force Section.

The defendants will be preliminarily arraigned before Scranton Magisterial District Judge Robert Russell.

Below is a complete list of the defendants and the charges against them.

--Robert "Light" Larkins, 32, 142 Blue Heron Drive, Seacucus, New Jersey, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Rafael "Chip" Rios, 29, 1026 Clay Avenue, Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Angela Rosado, 27, currently incarcerated in the Lackawanna County Prison, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Caheim "Goldie" Drake, 31, 148 Willow St., Dunmore, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--William "Wil" Staton, 27, currently incarcerated in the Lackawanna County Prison, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Louie Cuadrado, 1414 Capouse Ave., Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Kalen "KB" Bell, 28, currently incarcerated in the Lackawanna County Prison, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Keith Cardone, Jr., 27, Florida, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Corey Hockman, 24, 1246 Elm St., Easton, Northampton County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Joseph Merryfield, 28, 1433 Academy St., Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Sandra Lopez, 23, 215 Ferdinand St., Apt. 1, Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--James Brown, 54, Address Unknown, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Raphael Eisenhauer, 30, 913 W. Locust St., Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Shane Vonsee, 19, 420 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--David Krzyna, 29, 536 Blvd Avenue, Dickson City, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Megan Harp, 19, 24 Locust St., Towanda, Lackawanna County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Oneil "Spug" Latchman, 27, Easton, Northampton County, is charged with one count of possession with the intent deliver, one count of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--Enrique "Rico" Sandiford, 19, 415 Cayuga Ave., Scranton, Lackawanna County, is charged with two counts of possession with the intent to deliver, two counts of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

--David George, Jr., 23, 119 Cottage St., Carbondale, Lackawanna County, is charged with two counts of possession with the intent to deliver, two counts of delivery, one count of conspiracy to deliver, one count of criminal use of a communication facility and one count of corrupt organizations.

(A person charged with a crime is presumed innocent until proven guilty.)

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