



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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Manassas Man Indicted on Federal Drug Charges

(Alexandria, VA) –Tony Ervin Lopez, age 32, of Manassas, Virginia, was indicted today by a federal grand jury on one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine, four counts of distribution of cocaine, and four counts of using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to drug trafficking crimes. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, Edgar A. Domenech, Special Agent in Charge, Washington Field Office, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), and Shawn Johnson, Special Agent in Charge, Washington Field Office, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), announced this indictment as part of a year long investigation which resulted in the arrest of 34 individuals and the seizure of over 20 kilograms of cocaine, 26 firearms, and over \$225,000.

The joint investigation headed by the ATF and the DEA focused upon cocaine and firearms trafficking in Prince William County, Virginia, and other locations in Northern Virginia. The indictment alleges that Tony Lopez sold firearms and cocaine to undercover law enforcement agents and that he distributed kilograms of cocaine from 2006 until his arrest in March 2007. The investigation resulted in the arrest of 34 individuals on both state and federal charges of illegal drug trafficking, firearms offenses and immigration violations.

In connection with the operation, law enforcement agents searched ten locations in March 2007, in Northern Virginia, Washington D.C., and Maryland, including Lopez's home in Manassas, Virginia. At one warehouse in Fredericksburg, Virginia, agents seized 13 kilograms of cocaine and over \$100,000.

The ATF, DEA, Prince William County Police Department, Manassas Police Department, Manassas Park Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Fairfax County Police Department, the Northern Virginia Gang Task Force, and the United States Marshals Capitol Area Regional Fugitive Task

Force assisted in this investigation and arrests. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kelli Ferry and Special Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Donnelly.

Defendants are presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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