



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Los Angeles Field Division

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ATF VCIT GROUP, SAN BERNARDINO POLICE, ICE MAKE 13 ARRESTS IN SAN BERNARDINO

SAN BERNARDINO – Federal agents and San Bernardino police officers executed federal arrest and search warrants on Thursday that resulted in the arrest of 13 individuals. Enrique Billegas and Isaias Avila were arrested for distribution of methamphetamine and 11 other individuals were arrested for possession of methamphetamine for sale and violations of U.S. immigration laws.

The search warrants and arrests conclude a three-month, joint investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Violent Crime Impact Team (VCIT) and San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD) Narcotics Unit, along with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Four firearms, more than \$44,000 in U.S. currency, a substantial amount of methamphetamine and seven vehicles were taken into custody. Four of the vehicles had hidden compartments used to transport contraband.

“We are the violent crime police,” said Special Agent in Charge John A. Torres of ATF’s Los Angeles Field Division. “ATF will continue to work together with our law enforcement partners to identify, disrupt, arrest and prosecute the most violent criminals in the San Bernardino area. The warrants executed yesterday are an outstanding example of a collaborative effort to make our cities safer.”

Working in partnership with the SBPD and VCIT, the United States Attorney’s Office and the District Attorney’s Office have used the firearms statutes and mandatory minimum sentencing provided in the federal court system to obtain the longest possible criminal sentences for prosecution.

More information on ATF and its programs to reduce violent crime is at www.atf.gov.

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