



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 29, 2005

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Two Janesville Men Pled Guilty In Federal Court to Distributing Heroin

Madison, Wis. -- Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Joseph Porter, a/k/a "Billa," DOB: 11/30/81, and Michael Stevenson, a/k/a "Casio," DOB: 07/20/74, both from Janesville, pleaded guilty today in United States District Court in Madison to distributing heroin, and conspiring to distribute heroin. Stevenson pleaded guilty to one count of distributing heroin on March 6, 2004, to a person less than 21 years old. Porter pleaded guilty to distributing heroin on April 16, 2004, to an undercover officer. Both Stevenson and Porter pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute heroin, and possessing heroin with intent to distribute it, from April through June 2004.

United States District Judge John C. Shabaz scheduled sentencing for June 7, 2005, at 1:15 p.m. Stevenson faces a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison, followed by a six-year term of supervised release. Porter faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, followed by a three-year period of supervised release.

The charges against Stevenson and Porter were the result of a long-term investigation conducted by the Janesville Police Department's Street Crimes Unit, the State Line Area Narcotics Team (SLANT), and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The investigation utilized confidential informants and an undercover officer from SLANT. Interviews with numerous individuals who had purchased heroin

from the two men were also conducted. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant United States Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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