



NEWS RELEASE

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Motorcycle club member sentenced for drug charges

Mario Piedra Liberato, age 46, of Michuocan, Mexico and Farmville, North Carolina, was sentenced in U. S. District Court in Harrisonburg on Tuesday for convictions of Conspiracy to Distribute Marijuana, Cocaine, and Methamphetamine, and Illegal Reentry into the United States Following Deportation. Liberato was sentenced to 360 months imprisonment for the drug conspiracy, and 120 months for the Illegal Reentry, with the sentences to run concurrently.

Liberato was apprehended following a 20 month undercover investigation into the Warlocks Motorcycle Club by undercover agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and a continued investigation into the club's sources of drug supply. Liberato supplied members of the group with cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine, and was part of a network which brought drugs from Mexico to North Carolina, and then transported them to Virginia, West Virginia, and elsewhere.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Northwest Virginia Regional Drug Task Force (Frederick, Warren, Clarke, Page County Sheriff's Offices, the City of Winchester, Town of Front Royal Police Departments), Virginia State Police, DEA, and the United States Marshal's Service. Assistant U. S. Attorney Joseph W. H. Mott prosecuted the case.

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