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Undercover Military Housing Sting Nets 33 on Serious Drug Charges

San Diego County District Attorney <u>Bonnie M. Dumanis</u>, in cooperation with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (<u>NCIS</u>), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and San Diego Police Department announced 33 people have been charged with drugrelated felony charges as a result of a three-month undercover drug sting in military housing in San Diego.

"This operation has rounded up drug dealers who were jeopardizing public safety in military housing," said DA Dumanis. "The dedicated men and women serving in the military, along with their families, deserve a drug-free environment where they live."

"Operation Endless Summer" was launched in the fall of last year as a response to concern over increased drug trafficking in military housing. The operation focused on drug dealers and violent criminals operating in a Fleet Concentration Area and negatively affecting the quality of life of families living in military housing.

As part of the operation, law enforcement seized \$19,000 in cash; two pounds of crystal methamphetamine; a half pound of powder cocaine; one gram of heroin; more than 75 Oxycontin pills; 100 Ecstasy pills; more than 400 marijuana plants; six pounds of marijuana; and seven guns.

"The drug-fighting initiative 'Operation Endless Summer' is an excellent example of NCIS, ATF, the District Attorney's Office and the San Diego Police Department pulling our resources together to eliminate a specific problem and make this community a safer place to work and live," said Pete Hughes, Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Southwest Field Office.

"We are very pleased with the results of this operation," said ATF Special Agent in Charge, John A. Torres. "We want our men and women in uniform to know that ATF and our partners will do all we can to protect their neighborhoods, just as they do all they can to protect our country."

The defendants are being arraigned on an on-going basis in Superior Court downtown. Charges include sale and possession for sale of cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, heroin, and marijuana. If convicted, most defendants face between 16 months and 5 years in prison.