

DRUGS SEND SUBLETTE COUNTY AND SWEETWATER COUNTY RESIDENT'S TO PRISON

On November 7, 2008, the last of eleven (11) person(s) were sentenced in a long term Drug Conspiracy Investigation, which started in 2005, and spanned from Sublette and Sweetwater Counties, in Wyoming, to Ogden, Utah, Phoenix, Arizona, and Southern California. The joint investigation was between the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET), the Sublette County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Task Force (SCSO NTF), and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

On November 7, 2008, thirty-nine (39) year old John Kevin ECKDAHL of Big Piney, Wyoming, appeared before United States District Court Judge, Alan B. Johnson, for Sentencing. ECKDAHL entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(B).

ECKDAHL was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of seventy (70) months (5 years 10 months). Upon release from Imprisonment ECKDAHL, will be placed on four (4) years supervised release.

The ten (10) other persons involved in the Drug Conspiracy were also sentenced in 2007 and 2008:

On Tuesday, July 8, 2008, forty-one (41) year old Russell Jerome YEAGER, formerly of Marbleton, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. YEAGER entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 841 (a)(1), (b)(1)(B) and 21 USC 846.

YEAGER was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of forty-six (46) months (3 years 10 months). Upon release from Imprisonment, YEAGER will be placed on four (4) years supervised probation with the United States Probation Office.

On May 7, 2008, thirty-two (32) year old Justin David MCBEE formerly of Big Piney, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. MCBEE entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 841 (a)(1),(b)(1), (b)(1)(B) and 21 USC 846.

MCBEE was committed to the custody United States Probation Office. MCBEE was placed on forty-six (46) months (3 years 10 months) Supervised Release, of which, twelve (12) months will be Home Confinement.

On May 7, 2008, twenty-seven (27) year old **Candy Lynn BARBER** of Rock Springs, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. BARBER entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A).

BARBER was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of seventy (70) months (5 years 10 months) for Count I. Upon release from Imprisonment BARBER, will be placed on three (3) years supervised probation.

On April 8, 2008, fifty-seven (57) year old **Paul MANZANEDO** formerly of Pinedale, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. MANZANEDO entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846 and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A).

MANZANEDO was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of one-hundred twenty (120) months (10 years). Upon release from Imprisonment MANZANEDO, will be placed on five (5) years Supervised Release.

On March 6, 2008, twenty-three (23) year old **Aracelly QUEZADA-MORENO** of Rock Springs, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. QUEZADA-MORENO entered a plea of Guilty to Counts I and VIII of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A), and Unlawful Entry of an Alien into the United States, in violation of 8 USC 1325 (a)

QUEZADA-MORENO was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of one hundred eight (108) months (9 years) for Count I, and six (6) months for Count VIII. Upon release from Imprisonment QUEZADA-MORENO, will be placed on four (4) years supervised probation, and delivered to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

On March 5, 2008, forty-four (44) year old **Timothy HACKNEY** formerly of Marbleton, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. HACKNEY entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846 and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A).

HACKNEY was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of sixty (60) months (5 years). Upon release from Imprisonment HACKNEY, will be placed on four (4) years Supervised Release.

On January 15, 2008, twenty-two (22) year old **Jesus MEDINA-ACOSTA** of

Rock Springs, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. MEDINA-ACOSTA entered a plea of Guilty to Counts I and VI of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A), and Illegal Entry of an Alien into the United States, in violation of 8 USC 1325 (a)

MEDINA-ACOSTA was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of eighty-seven (87) months (7 years 4 months). Upon release from Imprisonment MEDINA-ACOSTA, will be placed on three (3) years supervised probation, and delivered to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

On December 13, 2007, thirty-seven (37) year old **Milton Robert PETERSON** formerly of Pinedale, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. PETERSON entered a plea of Guilty to Count I of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846 and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A).

PETERSON was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of one-hundred forty-eight (148) months (12 years 4 months). Upon release from Imprisonment, PETERSON will be placed on four (4) years Supervised Release.

On November 19, 2007, twenty-four (24) year old **Paul ONTIVEROS** of Rock Springs, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. P. ONTIVEROS entered a plea of Guilty to Counts I and V of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A), and Illegal Entry of an Alien into the United States, in violation of 8 USC 1325 (a)

P. ONTIVEROS was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of one hundred twenty one (121) months (10 years 1 month) for Count I, and six (6) months for Count V. All Counts will be served concurrently. Upon release from Imprisonment P. ONTIVEROS, will be placed on five (5) years supervised probation, and delivered to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

On October 4, 2007, twenty-four (24) year old **Cristian Alan CRUZ-AVENDA** of Rock Springs, Wyoming, appeared before Chief, United States District Court Judge, William F. Downes, for Sentencing. CRUZ-AVENDA entered a plea of Guilty to Counts I and VII of the Indictment, Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute, and to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of 21 USC 846, and 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A), and Illegal Entry into the United States, in violation of 8 USC 1325 (a)

CRUZ-AVENDA was committed to the custody United States Bureau of Prisons

to be imprisoned for a term of one hundred twenty (120) months (10 years) for Count I , and six (6) months for Count VII. All Counts will be served concurrently. Upon release from Imprisonment CRUZ-AVENDA, will be placed on five (5) years supervised probation, and delivered to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Law Enforcement would like to encourage the public to continue to provide information in a timely manner when they suspect someone engaged in the use and distribution of drugs. The public is welcome to contact the Division of Criminal Investigation, DCI, SWET, and the Sublette County Sheriff's Office with information regarding illegal drugs.

The Southwest Enforcement Team is comprised of Agents from the Division of Criminal Investigation, the Sublette County Sheriff's Office, Evanston Police Department, Uinta County Sheriff's Office, Green River Police Department, Sweetwater County Sheriff's Office, and the Teton County Sheriff's Office.