

# ***NEWS RELEASE***



## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

***San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Laura E. Duffy***

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***For Immediate Release***

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** – February 13, 2013

A contingent of 150 federal, state and local law enforcement officials arrested 28 people and seized 19 firearms early yesterday – including fully-automatic and semi-automatic assault rifles, silencers and high-capacity magazines - in connection with a year-long investigation of major methamphetamine traffickers.

Many of the defendants are scheduled to be arraigned before U.S. Magistrate Judge David Bartick at 1:30 p.m. today. Prosecutors will be available for interviews after court.

The arrests – from Spring Valley, La Mesa and Jamul to National City, Chula Vista and San Diego - were based on three grand jury indictments of 33 suspected methamphetamine traffickers unsealed in federal court Tuesday. The charges include conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, distribution of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. Three defendants were still at large.

During the predawn raids, agents seized about 26 pounds of methamphetamine with an estimated \$291,200 street value; a pound of cocaine with estimated \$12,800 street value; \$151,000 in cash; plus weapons that included an AR-15, a TEC 9, a Glock semi-automatic handgun, bolt action rifles and five silencers. Eight of the guns and the silencers were found at one home on Millar Ranch Road in Jamul. Authorities also discovered indoor marijuana grows with hundreds of plants in two apartment units in Spring Valley.

The investigation, dubbed “Red Menace,” involved federal wiretaps, undercover drug buys and extensive surveillance. Numerous defendants are documented members of gangs, including Skyline, Emerald Hills and Oriental Killer Boys. Rival criminal street gangs often cross gang affiliation for the purpose of facilitating drug distribution.

The arrests are the latest in a series of large-scale multi-agency crackdowns on street gang activity in San Diego County neighborhoods. Including yesterday’s action, more than 180 defendants have been charged in various federal gang prosecutions since January 2012, with more than 80 guilty pleas so far. Most charges are drug- and gun- related; Sentences have ranged from 10 to 21 years in federal prison.

“We are committed to keeping neighborhoods out of the clutches of gang members who deal in drugs and who stash deadly, high-powered automatic weapons in their homes, next door to unwitting neighbors,” said U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy.

U.S. Attorney Duffy praised the coordinated effort of the law enforcement agencies of the East County Regional Gang Task Force under the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (“OCDETF”) for the coordinated team effort culminating in the charges filed in these cases. The OCDETF program was created to consolidate and utilize all law enforcement resources in this country’s battle against major drug trafficking.

San Diego FBI Special Agent In Charge, Daphne Hearn, commented, “As our communities are faced with increasing threats of crime and violence, the FBI and our partners with the East County Regional Gang Task Force, will work together to confront these threats and make our communities safer.”

San Diego County Sheriff Bill Gore said, "This operation is on-going. It's a team effort that requires careful planning and persistent follow-through. Our aim is straightforward: take back communities for law abiding families and protect them from gang members and drug dealers who threaten their safety."

In the 1990s, San Diego County had the dubious distinction of being called the “Meth Capital” of the country, and East County was the hub of meth-related activity. Until recent years, methamphetamine was typically produced in small to medium quantities in local clandestine laboratories in homes, garages, storage units, apartments, and motel rooms.

Because of a law enforcement crackdown and policies that restrict access to ingredients needed to manufacture meth, San Diego County today has very few meth labs. But now, most of the methamphetamine available for sale here is linked to the sophisticated manufacturing and distribution operations of international drug cartels and local street gangs.

While law enforcement efforts have curtailed local manufacturing, methamphetamine use is still one of the biggest drug-related threats in the district - and the country.

And it’s coming across the border in significant quantities. While there has been a decline in the amount of marijuana and cocaine being smuggled through our district, there has been a significant increase in the amount of methamphetamine.

Border officials seized 427 loads of methamphetamine at San Diego ports of entry in FY 2012 compared to 364 in FY 2011. That's a 17 percent increase. In Imperial County, the amount of methamphetamine seized jumped by almost 100 percent, from 745 kg to 1,442 kg.

## **DEFENDANTS**

### **Case Number: 13cr0492-GPC**

Pedro Millan	Age: 53	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Carlos Contreras Sanchez	Age: 30	Chula Vista, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Laura Millan	Age: 31	Chula Vista, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Princeton Beon Franks	Age: 32	Spring Valley, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Eduardo Sanchez	Age: 29	Bonita, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Gilberto Lamas	Age: 49	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Adolfo Siordia	Age: Unk	National City, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Rosita Eunice Corrales	Age: 28	Chula Vista, CA	Fugitive
Nicholas Oliveri	Age: 48	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
William Kilmer	Age: 56	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Stephanie Cleveland	Age: 43	Coronado, CA	Fugitive
James Cheevers	Age: 48	Coronado, CA	In State Custody
Raymond Lopez	Age: 50	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Jasmine Millan	Age: 20	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Daniel Erique Millan-Aispuro	Age: 18	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Ascarelli Lopez	Age: 23	Highland, CA	Arrested 2/12/13

### **Summary of Charges**

Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846 - Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine  
Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) - Possession of Methamphetamine With Intent To Distribute

Maximum Penalties: Life in Custody; Minimum Custody: 10 years; Maximum Fine: \$4 million

### **Case Number: 13cr0491-GPC**

Christopher Robles	Age: 28	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Sarat Sek	Unconfirmed	San Diego, CA	Fugitive
Ronald Bonoan	Age: 40	Chula Vista, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Shannon White	Age: 39	La Mesa, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Robert Duren	Age: 41	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Joshua Wayne McGuire	Age: 34	La Mesa, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Robert McKinney	Age: 42	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Alfredo Barias	Age: 65	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Robert Young	Age: 31	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
David Marinelli	Age: 41	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Cory Evans	Age: 39	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Keith Lusk	Age: 44	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Pamela Miranda	Age: 25	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Scott Smith	Age: 52	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13

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Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846 - Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine  
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**Case Number: 13cr0493-GPC**

Roberto Carrillo Gonzalez	Age: 49	San Diego, CA	In State Custody
Cedric Gregory	Age: 45	San Diego, CA	Arrested 2/12/13
Marcel Clady	Age: 43	San Diego, CA	In State Custody

**Summary of Charges**

Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846 - Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine  
Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) - Possession of Methamphetamine With Intent To Distribute  
Maximum Penalties: Life in Custody; Minimum Custody: 10 years; Maximum Fine: \$4 million

**AGENCIES**

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
San Diego County Sheriff's Department  
La Mesa Police Department  
San Diego County District Attorney's Office  
San Diego County Probation Department  
El Cajon Police Department  
San Diego Police Department  
Chula Vista Police Department  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
U.S. Marshals Service  
U.S. Border Patrol  
California Highway Patrol  
Drug Enforcement Administration's Narcotics Task Force  
Bureau of Prisons  
Internal Revenue Service

**An indictment or complaint itself is not evidence that the defendants committed the crimes charged.**

**The defendants are presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.**