

## **CASES BEING PROSECUTED IN ONONDAGA & OSWEGO COUNTIES**

### **Onondaga County**

In Onondaga County, an investigation resulted in the indictment of Victor Manuel Batista Sanchez, 38, of Syracuse, and 20 others, charging them for their roles in obtaining multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine from New York City for distribution in Syracuse. Batista Sanchez has been charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, a class "A-I" felony. Fourteen search warrants were executed in April of this year which resulted in the recovery of nine and one-half kilos of cocaine, \$28,000 in cash and one hand-gun. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Deputy Attorney General Gordon Cuffy. The defendants are being arraigned in before Judge William D. Walsh in Onondaga County Court.

The additional defendants are: Marcelo Acosta, 31, Roberto Bague, 40, Joe Cannon, 24, Jorge Da Villa, 30, David Diaz, 28, Kareem Dowdell, 29, Alex Fuentes, 34, Thaddeus Holdren, 33, Dana Hudson, 24, Donato Jerez-Mercedes, 28, Pedro Lopez-Portalatin, 42, Carlos Orta, 34, John Ozelek, 31, Rene Rodriguez, 48, and Luis Sanchez, 48, all of Syracuse. Five defendants remain at large.

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An investigation into alleged cocaine trafficking activity in Onondaga and Oswego Counties and New York City resulted in the indictment in Onondaga County of Dwight Absolom, 40, of Liverpool; Matthew Mastro, 33, of Volney; Jason Knopp, 29, of Martville; and 13 other defendants for obtaining cocaine in New York City and transporting it for re-sale. Absolom and Mastro have both been charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, a class "A-I" felony. Knopp has been charged with Conspiracy in the Second Degree, a class "B" felony. In April, 2006, seven search warrants were executed. Officers seized 14 ounces of cocaine, \$29,000 cash and an Uzi semi-automatic. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Deputy Attorney General Gordon Cuffy. The defendants are being arraigned before Judge Joseph E. Fahey in Onondaga County Court.

The additional defendants are: Christine Denny, 26, Lori Firenze, 26, Dan Harrington, 45, Patricia Janes, 28, Melinda LeClair, 20, Brandon Manwaring, 30, and Fred Orr, 26, all of Oswego; Michael Sorell, 33, of Fulton; Brian Sutton, 27, of Liverpool; Susan Ladd, 27, of Mexico; Adam Vincent, 30, of Red Creek; and Jackie Hart, 31, of Volney. A single defendant remains at large.

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Felony complaints have been issued that charge 15 defendants with trafficking cocaine and ecstasy in Onondaga, Oswego and Cayuga counties. The defendants are charged

with Conspiracy and related drug offenses. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Deputy Attorney General Irene Bardot. The defendants are being arraigned by the Honorable Langston C. McKinney in Syracuse City Court.

The additional defendants are: William Adams, 43, Alshadeem Brown, 29, Jason Cannizzo, 26, Vince DeAngelis, 29, Chuck Donato, 29, Chris Macknail, 24, Vann Macknail, 22, John McCandrew, 21, Josh Taro, 28, Robert Williams, 28, and Bruce Wingate, 21, all of Auburn; Crystal Hames, 23, Robert Hunter, 44, Joeroy "Smurf" Baker, 24, all of Syracuse; and Earl Heath, 24, of Cayuga. Four defendants remain at large.

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### **Oswego County**

An investigation into alleged cocaine trafficking activity in Oswego, Cayuga and Westchester counties has resulted in the indictment of 17 individuals in Oswego County. It is alleged that the defendants were part of an organization that would obtain cocaine by the kilo from defendant George Finney, Jr. in Elmsford (Westchester County) for distribution in Oswego and Cayuga counties. Nine search warrants were executed in March 14, 2006 which resulted in the seizure of more than three pounds of cocaine, five handguns, 12 rifles, and \$5,000 cash. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant Deputy Attorney General Irene Bardot. The defendants are being arraigned before Judge Walter W. Hafner, Jr., in Oswego County Court.

The additional defendants are: Timothy R. Jackson, 37, Sara Spencer, 33, Jerome L. Yates, 36, all of Fair Haven; Eric Adams, 40, Julie Adams, 34, and Terry VanDyke, 46, all of Sterling; Devin R. Younglove, 23, of Red Creek; David A. Orbaker, 44, of Hannibal; Penny Parker Lalik, 37, of Martville; Ryan E. Miller, 25, of N. Rose; and Wayne E. Sears, 45, of Wolcott. Six defendants remain at large.