



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS INDICTED ON METHAMPHETAMINE CHARGES

(Sherman, Texas) Three illegal aliens residing in Dallas have been indicted and charged with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute approximately seventeen pounds of 95% pure methamphetamine in the Eastern District of Texas. A federal grand jury returned the indictment against **JUAN SOLORIO-VALENCIA**, 21, **LEONARDO ALVARADO-BLANCO**, 18, and **ABELARDO AGUIRRE-ALVARADO**, 28, last week in Sherman.

According to court documents, the defendants were arrested in Denton, Texas on August 26, 2004 after they allegedly delivered approximately 17 pounds of methamphetamine in an undercover operation coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and Denton County law enforcement. Subsequent laboratory testing indicates the drugs are 95% pure methamphetamine. The defendants are being held without bond while awaiting trial.

This case is part of the Methbusters initiative. Methbusters is an aggressive program that was implemented in June, 2004 to address the growing problem of methamphetamine in East Texas. The United States Attorney's Office has joined with law enforcement to prosecute methamphetamine cooks and dealers, as well as those who illegally distribute the chemicals used to manufacture the drug.

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If convicted, the defendants each face up to life in prison and a fine of up to \$4 million. It is important to note that an indictment is merely a charge, and should not be considered as evidence of either innocence or guilt.

The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Denton Police Department are investigating this case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jose Monsivais is prosecuting the case.

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