

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY KINGS COUNTY

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## KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KENNETH P. THOMPSON AND POLICE COMMISSIONER WILLIAM J. BRATTON ANNOUNCE MULTIPLE INDICTMENTS OF DRUG DEALERS IN THE BAY RIDGE AREA

Wiretap and Undercover Investigation Dismantles Delivery-by-Car Networks

**Brooklyn, NY** - Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson and Police Commissioner William P. Bratton today announced indictments charging six defendants with operating narcotics, steroids and marijuana phone delivery services in Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Sunset Park, and Bensonhurst. The charges resulted from a wiretap and undercover investigation conducted by the New York Police Department's Narcotics Borough Brooklyn South and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Major Narcotics Investigations Bureau. The investigation began after complaints by neighborhood residents, community leaders, and local politicians, and after several overdose deaths in those neighborhoods.

"As this investigation demonstrates, careful coordination with the NYPD allowed us to break up this delivery-by-car drug dealing network. We will continue to work day and night with the NYPD to fight drug dealing that occurs anywhere in Brooklyn. The cost in lives is too high not to make this a priority," said District Attorney Thompson.

Police Commissioner William J. Bratton said, "Cell phones are essential to operating any business, but these drug dealers unlawfully used the device as a means to distribute narcotics on the streets of Brooklyn and put money in their pockets. These indictments send a clear message to criminals, that the law enforcement community will not tolerate criminal activity of any kind in neighborhoods where law-abiding citizens reside. I would like to thank the investigators assigned to NYPD's Narcotics Borough Brooklyn South and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office for their efforts in bringing these criminals to justice."

"I commend the NYPD and Kings County District Attorney Ken Thompson for their swift and decisive action in taking these dealers off the street. Thanks to tips from active and concerned residents from Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Bensonhurst, along with a strong joint law enforcement effort, today we are sending a clear message that drugs and drug activity of any kind in our neighborhoods and on our residential streets will not be tolerated," said City Councilman Vincent J. Gentile (43<sup>rd</sup> District).

According to documents submitted in court, the long-term investigation revealed that in one case, from July 2012 until their arrests last week, defendants Vincent Alfonso, Vincent Felix and Adam Veit allegedly conspired to operate a sophisticated drug delivery service business. Over time, the defendants allegedly adopted a convenient "one stop shopping" model, in which customers could simply call one number and order a variety of controlled substances for delivery, including cocaine, marijuana and methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), commonly referred to as "molly," a designer drug often associated with dance parties. The investigation revealed that after taking their phone orders, the defendants allegedly would service their customers throughout Brooklyn by meeting them on the street or in drinking establishments, whose owners were unaware of this activity.

As part of the investigation, the police executed search warrants at locations associated with Alfonso, Felix and Veit on March 11, 2014, resulting in the recovery of cocaine and MDMA and large quantities of marijuana, as well as scales and packaging materials commonly used to prepare the controlled substances for distribution. Defendants Alfonso, Felix and Veit face multiple counts of criminal sale and possession of a controlled substance, including Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, a Class A-1 felony, and Conspiracy in the Second Degree, a Class B felony.

The investigation further established in another case that from October 2013 until their arrests last week, Francesco Lozada and Victor Moreno allegedly operated their own cocaine and crack cocaine phone distribution service, with Lozado taking customer orders, and Moreno handling the deliveries. Execution of a search warrant at Lozada's base of operation on March 11, 2014 yielded more than four ounces of cocaine; a 9mm pistol loaded with three bullets; a .45 caliber pistol loaded with 11 bullets; and approximately \$20,000. Defendants Lozado and Moreno face charges of Conspiracy in the Second Degree and related offenses; and Lozada with multiple weapons offenses and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree, a Class A-II felony.

As for the defendant Robert Kollbeck, the investigation established that he allegedly conspired with others to operate a ketamine ("Special K"—a horse tranquilizer) and anabolic steroids phone delivery service from September 2013 until his arrest last week. When police executed a search warrant on March 11, 2013 at a residence associated with Kollbeck, they recovered large quantities of anabolic steroids.

The District Attorney's Office also has begun civil proceedings to seize real property and motor vehicles used as instrumentalities of these crimes, as well as bank accounts associated with the criminal activity.

The case was investigated by NYPD Detective John Mazzella under the supervision of Lieutenant Kevin Carlton, Narcotics Borough Brooklyn South. Assistant District Attorneys Tara Lenich and Nicholas Scott are prosecuting the case for the Major Narcotics Investigations Bureau, under the supervision of Chief Marc Fliedner, and Assistant District Attorney John Genovese is prosecuting the civil forfeiture actions.

An indictment is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.

## **Defendant Information:**

Vincent Alfonso, DOB 7/8/76 Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree

Vincent Felix, DOB 12/9/87 Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree

Adam Veit, DOB 4/23/94 Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree

Francesco Lozada, DOB 4/19/75 Conspiracy in the Second Degree Two charges of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree

Victor Moreno, DOB 10/20/73 Conspiracy in the Second Degree

Robert Kollbeck, DOB 7/21/87 Conspiracy in the Fourth Degree to sell greater than 4,000MG ketamine

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## **Contact:**

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