



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Three guns and half million dollars In cocaine allegedly seized

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Two from Randolph are due to be arraigned in Quincy District Court on Monday, August 27, on cocaine trafficking and firearms charges, after an investigation by state and local police led to their arrest and the seizure of \$500,000 worth of cocaine and three firearms on Friday, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Jose R. Santana, age 41, of Cochato Park and Jessica Ramirez, age 37, of Rockefeller Street, both in Randolph, were arrested following a four-month joint investigation by District Attorney Morrissey's State Police Drug Task Force, Randolph Police detectives and the State Police Drug Task Force working out of Essex District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett's office, according to Morrissey.

"This was a strong example of multiple law enforcement agencies working together for a dramatic result, and what appears to be among the largest cocaine seizure in Norfolk County by state authorities in several years," District Attorney Morrissey said. "My thanks to Chief William Pace and DA Jon Blodgett for the resources they have dedicated to this investigation."

In addition to six kilos of what is alleged to be cocaine being seized pursuant to search warrants for the suspects' residences and the car they were stopped in on Friday while driving in Lynn, Mass., authorities say they seized a .45 caliber pistol, a 9 mm handgun, a .22 caliber rifle with large capacity clip, sights and silencer, a 1/2 ounce of Heroin, approximately \$80,000 in US currency and 3 vehicles allegedly used in drug activity.

Each defendant has been charged by the Massachusetts State Police with cocaine trafficking, unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of a large capacity firearm and conspiracy to violate the drug laws, Morrissey said.

"The investigation is continuing," Morrissey said.

UPDATE:

Additional arrest warrants issued out of the Quincy District Court for the arrests of two other parties identified during the course of the investigation:

Joseline Espada, 29, of Cochato Park, Randolph, 29, pled not guilty on August 29 to trafficking cocaine, carrying a firearm without an FID card, possession of ammunition without an FIC card, possession of a class A substance and conspiracy.

She pled not guilty and was ordered held on \$35,000 cash bail.

She was ordered to return to Quincy District Court for a probable cause hearing on September 27, 2012.

Emilio Lara, 27, of East Brookline Street, Boston, pled not guilty August 29 to the same set of charges, was ordered held on \$40,000 cash bail and ordered to return on September 27, 2012 for probable cause hearing.

Defendant Jessica Ramirez, after posting \$25,000 bail on Essex County charges stemming from this investigation, presented at Quincy District Court on Aug. 31, 2012, and pled not guilty to conspiracy and possession of ammunition without a FID card. She was ordered held on an additional \$5,000 on the Norfolk County Charges and to return to Quincy District Court on September 27, 2012.

Defendant Jose Santana remains held in lieu of bail in Essex County and has not yet been transported to Quincy District Court to answer the Norfolk County warrant.

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.