



U.S. Department of Justice

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THREE STERLING/ROCK FALLS MEN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; together with STEPHEN A. LUZINSKI, Acting Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration, ROBERT SEAS, Commander of the Illinois State Police Blackhawk Area Task Force, today made the following announcement:

Yesterday, **ADRIAN AMEZOLA**, 28, Rock Falls, Illinois, was sentenced in Rockford federal court to 175 months in prison, without parole, for conspiring to distribute more than 5 kilograms of cocaine between January 2008 and April 2009. United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala also ordered Amezola to serve 10 years of supervised release after his prison term. Amezola had pleaded guilty to the charge on December 18, 2009.

ZACHARIAH RANDALL, 31, Sterling, and **NICHOLAS GALVAN**, 32, Sterling, both previously pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute more than 5 kilograms of cocaine. On February 18, 2010, Randall was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment and on March 9, 2010 Galvan was sentenced to 129 months' imprisonment. Both men were also sentenced to serve 5 years of supervised release after their prison terms.

In pleading guilty to the conspiracy charges, Amezola, Randall and Galvan admitted that they operated a cocaine trafficking organization between January 2008 and April 2009. As part of the operation, every two to four weeks, Amezola would purchase a kilogram of cocaine from his suppliers. Amezola would then add inositol to the cocaine in order to increase the amount of cocaine powder he could sell. In his plea agreement, Amezola admitted that over the course of the conspiracy, he purchased approximately 16 kilograms of cocaine, to which added inositol in order to increase the weight of the cocaine powder to 48 kilograms. Amezola then distributed the 48 kilograms of cocaine to Randall, Galvan and others members of the conspiracy. Randall admitted that he received and then resold approximately 7.5 kilograms of cocaine and Galvan admitted that he received and then resold approximately 5 kilograms of cocaine from Amezola during the course of the conspiracy. Amezola further admitted that as part of the illegal drug trafficking operation, he sold a total

of 962 grams of cocaine to a person cooperating with law enforcement, and that when arrested on April 9, 2009, he possessed in his residence in Rock Falls, 435 grams of cocaine and 37.6 grams of crack cocaine, which he intended to distribute.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Illinois State Police Blackhawk Area Task Force with the assistance of the Sterling Police Department, the Whiteside County Sheriff's Department, the Savanna Police Department, the Kewanee Police Department and the Oregon Police Department. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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