

Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York



2010
Annual Report

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Message from the Special Narcotics Prosecutor



This year, our Annual Report highlights the exploding problem of prescription drug abuse in New York City. Considered a minor problem just a few years ago – especially when compared to the abuse of street drugs – misuse of prescription drugs like Fentanyl, Vicodin and oxycodone has hit New York City hard. Oxycodone, the generic name for a narcotic pain reliever, is among the most frequently prescribed and heavily abused. The New York State Health Department has released data showing that, over the past three years, the number of oxycodone prescriptions filled in New York City grew by 100%.

It is not just the rate of increase, but the sheer number of pills prescribed that is so startling. In 2010, more than one million prescriptions were filled in New York City – enough to supply one prescription for every eighth person – or 13% of the total population. In 2007, only half a million prescriptions were filled, enough for a more reasonable 6% of the city wide population.

The increase in numbers of prescriptions strongly correlates with the increase in prescription drug crime which our agency has witnessed firsthand. In 2007, 6% of our caseload was comprised of prescription drug-related arrests. The percentage more than doubled to nearly 15% of our caseload by 2010. Violence is also becoming more commonly associated with the black market prescription drug trade. Many of our prescription drug investigations have involved robberies and seizures of guns, in some cases even small arsenals.

Pictured on the cover is a cache of drugs recovered in one of our investigations. The defendant in this case stockpiled hundreds of opiate pills and resold them for thousands of dollars on the black market.

Equally of concern is the high volume of heroin that we continue to seize in New York. We have noted that young people often begin an opiate addiction with prescription drugs, and turn to heroin when their ever increasing dependence on opiates becomes too expensive to satisfy with pills.

My office is developing new partnerships with the New York State Department of Health (Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement) and the New York City Health Department. We have run complex investigations with the Drug Enforcement Administration, New York City Police Department, New York State Police and other agencies. At the same time, we are meeting with local and federal officials to alert them to the huge influx of heroin, and our fear that it will result in rising numbers of young heroin addicts.

Bridget G. Brennan

Special Narcotics Prosecutor

About the Office

An independent prosecutors' office with citywide jurisdiction, the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor (SNP) is responsible for felony narcotics investigations and prosecutions the five boroughs of New York City. Founded in 1971, it is the only agency of its kind in the United States.

Created in response to a burgeoning heroin epidemic and a related spike in violent crime, SNP was granted broad authority under New York State Judiciary Laws to root out sophisticated narcotics trafficking organizations and track offenders across traditional jurisdictional boundaries. Since its inception, SNP has worked closely with local, state and federal law enforcement partners to dismantle drug networks, money laundering enterprises and entrenched local gangs in neighborhoods across the city and beyond.

Assistant District Attorneys are assigned to the office by the city's five District Attorneys and placed into one of three divisions: the Investigation Division, the Trial Division or the Alternative Sentencing Division.

Renowned for its expertise in wiretap investigations, SNP uses cutting-edge electronic technology to identify and pursue members of criminal enterprises from street-level dealers to top suppliers. The office is also committed to reducing demand for narcotics by raising public awareness and facilitating treatment for addicted offenders.

The first Special Narcotics Prosecutor, Frank Rogers, was appointed in January 1972. He was succeeded by Hon. Sterling Johnson, Jr., who headed SNP for 16 years before becoming a federal judge in the Eastern District of New York. Robert H. Silbering was named the Special Narcotics Prosecutor in 1992 and served for six years.

On May 1, 1998, Bridget G. Brennan was appointed Special Narcotics Prosecutor by the city's five District Attorneys. Under her direction, the office has developed innovative strategies to stem the flow of drugs into the city and target emerging problems, such as Internet sales and prescription drug diversion. Ms. Brennan established the Narcotics Gang Unit and the Money Laundering and Financial Investigation Unit, and reorganized the Alternative Sentencing Division.



Photo courtesy of Laura Badger, Manhattan DA's Office.

Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan, Manhattan DA Cyrus R. Vance, Jr. and Bronx DA Robert T. Johnson at the NYC Detective Investigators' Association (DIA) awards breakfast at Battery Park Gardens in November.

Explosion of Prescriptions...

There has been a dramatic increase in the strength and availability of powerful narcotic pain relievers over the past 10 years. Pharmaceutical companies have engineered synthetic opiates, and developed gradual release formulations that deliver dosages over extended periods in an effort to prevent misuse. These drugs were developed as a solution to pain management for critically ill patients, but abusers have found ways to bypass these precautions and use the substances to get high.

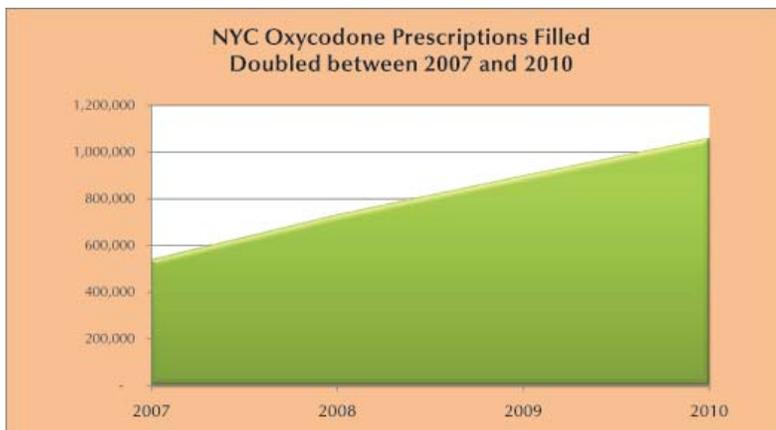


| Drug | Brand Names |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Oxycodone | Percocet, Roxicet, OxyContin |
| Oxymorphone | Opana |
| Hydrocodone | Vicodin, Lorcet, Maxidone |
| Hydromorphone | Dilaudid |
| Fentanyl | Actiq, Duragesic |



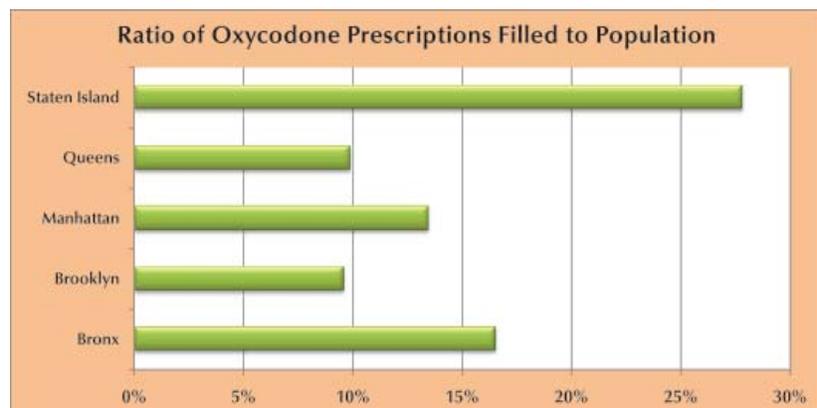
Increased Availability

In New York City prescriptions for the most popular opiate analgesic -- Oxycodone -- have doubled to more than **1 Million** between 2007 and 2010.



The vast demand and high costs for these drugs have created a lucrative black-market that diverts illegally obtained prescription drugs to non-medical users.

On Staten Island, enough prescriptions were filled in 2010 to supply Oxycodone to 1 in every 4 residents.



...Epidemic of Abuse

Along With Increased Availability - Increased Abuse

With more prescription drugs available, escalating numbers of young people began recreational use of opiate drugs and soon find themselves addicted. Other addicts begin using as a result of an injury or hospitalization, and are unaware they are addicted until they attempt to stop. Prescription drugs do not carry the stigma of heroin and cocaine and people believe they can be used for non-medical reasons without risk. However:



- Drug poisoning is the leading cause of accidental death in New York and 15 other states, and is second only to motor vehical accidents in the rest of the country.
- There are more deaths caused by prescription drug overdose than by heroin and cocaine overdose combined.
- In NYC the rate of opioid analgesic-related emergency department (ED) visits doubled between 2004 and 2009.

And Illegal Distribution

SNP has seen a sharp increase in the illegal distribution of prescription drugs. In one recent case, a trafficking group pumped over 42,000 oxycodone pills worth \$1 million onto the black market. A physician's office manager supplied stolen perscription forms to the ring's leaders, who paid dozens of individuals to fill the prescriptions. The pills were sold from a Lickety Split ice-cream truck.



SNP Outreach

Law Enforcement Training and Collaboration



A senior level Russian delegation visited during a study tour focused on drug courts and drug treatment facilities.

Narcotics Investigators from South Korea discuss investigative techniques and strategies with SNP team.



Sharing Expertise With International Partners



Customs officers from Hong Kong participating in the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program visit SNP.

Bridget G. Brennan speaks at the Twenty-Eighth Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime in the United Kingdom in September.



Professional Recognition

Steven Goldstein receives the Thomas E. Dewey Medal from the New York City Bar Association.



Bridget G. Brennan is among The Irish Law and Order 50 honored by The Irish Echo in October.

Neighborhood Initiatives

In early 2009, the Albany Houses in Crown Heights, Brooklyn were plagued by shootings and drug crime. Dealers sold heroin and crack-cocaine from apartments, hallways and stairwells in the New York City Housing Authority complex. In response, SNP and the NYPD's Brooklyn North Narcotics Division launched an investigation and made dozens of undercover drug purchases.

By the end of 2010, police made the complex safer by arresting six drug dealers and removing a firearm from the hands of criminals. Equally important, approximately 150 young people were enjoying recreational opportunities through a new Police Athletic League (PAL) Teen Impact Center at the Albany Houses. These are the kinds of positive changes that SNP is committed to supporting in New York City's neighborhoods.

The Albany Houses Teen Impact Center provides a safe environment for teenagers to participate in fun recreational programs. It is a haven for youth who might otherwise be subjected to gang recruitment and other criminal activity. It is also the first PAL center to be funded with forfeited narcotics trafficking proceeds obtained during prosecutions. By investing in the community, SNP built on the gains achieved when the drug organization was removed. NYCHA, the Kings County District Attorney's Office and the NYPD were also instrumental in supporting the program.

Teens from the Albany Houses and the nearby Weeksville Gardens Houses participated in the popular PAL Cops & Kids Basketball tournament and other recreational events. New computers and a fully equipped game room breathed new life into an existing community center facility.

Additionally, three recent college graduates who live in the community were hired to staff the Teen Impact Center. Educational programs, such as computer literacy training and workshops on various topics, including Gang Awareness, Bullying and Drugs and Alcohol, were offered at the Albany Houses Community Center. The recreational component of the program took place at the nearby Paul Robeson High School.



Bridget G. Brennan attends a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of a new PAL Teen Impact Center at the Albany Houses.

Cops & Kids Basketball champions from the 84th Precinct team pose with their trophies.



Investigation Division

Special Investigations Bureau



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

New York State

Department of Health

Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

The Special Investigations Bureau, (SIB) targets major narcotics trafficking organizations importing and distributing multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine and heroin. The activities of the criminal enterprises extend beyond county, state, and international borders. In 2010, SIB prosecutors worked with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the New York City Police Department, the New York State Police, the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYDETF), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the New York Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Strike Force and other local, state federal and foreign law enforcement. The division launched 135 investigations targeting a wide range of criminal activity, including drug trafficking, push-in robberies, weapons trafficking and money laundering. SIB also commenced civil actions to forfeit narcotics proceeds.

In 2010, senior staff supervised 150 wiretap investigations, including 96 original eavesdropping applications. Narcotics investigations resulted in the seizure of 675 pounds of cocaine, 132 pounds of heroin, 1,278 pounds of marijuana and various other drugs.

Narcotics Gang Unit

The Narcotics Gang Unit was established in 2002. It concentrates on violent neighborhood groups, robbery crews, and weapons traffickers committing drug-related criminal activity across the city. The unit works closely with detectives from the NYPD's Narcotics Division and members of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force's REDRUM Unit. In 2010, the unit prosecuted armed robbery, kidnapping, burglary, weapons possession, illegal firearms sales, and narcotics trafficking.

Money Laundering and Financial Investigations Unit

The Money Laundering and Financial Investigations Unit was initiated in 2001, and reconfigured in 2005 and 2008. It investigates narcotics-related money laundering and other financial criminal activity. Cases are generated from multiple sources, including intelligence developed during narcotics investigations. The unit aims to prevent foreign drug trafficking organizations from repatriating drug proceeds through smuggling and use of the financial system, and local drug organizations from benefiting from illicit profits.

Forfeiture Investigations

Established over 25 years ago, the Forfeiture Investigations Unit evaluates felony drug prosecutions for potential civil litigation to recover proceeds of narcotics crimes. The unit works closely with law enforcement -on the federal, state and local levels- in identifying criminal assets to deprive

narcotics traffickers and money-laundering groups of the profits of criminality. The unit has in place a comprehensive set of systems to track office participation in investigations resulting in forfeiture actions. In 2010, 248 federal forfeiture actions were entered and 223 were completed. At the state level, 414 actions were initiated and 384 were completed.

Wiretap Activity

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Orders | 135 |
| Originals | 96 |
| Extensions | 27 |
| Amendments | 9 |
| Instruments | |
| Cellphones | 95 |
| Landline Phones | 1 |

Case Highlights

City's First Drug Kingpin Charged: Crew Arrested in the Bronx

The head of a violent drug organization and 14 underlings were arrested in May for selling large quantities of cocaine and heroin in The Bronx. Jose Delorbe controlled an apartment building on Undercliff Avenue, where his brazen ring sold an average of two pounds of cocaine and heroin each day. During the seven-month wiretap investigation, Delorbe and his crew were implicated in a Nov. 24, 2009 shoot-out with a team of suspected robbers. Members of Delorbe's ring believed the rival group was attempting to break into one of the apartments where they stored drugs and money. Private surveillance cameras captured Delorbe holding a gun, while another member of his organization could be seen firing a hail of bullets down the street. Delorbe is the first New York City defendant charged under the kingpin statute, which went into effect in October 2009 and is the only felony narcotics charge in the state that carries a potential life sentence. A search of 11 apartments at the Underhill building yielded 13 pounds of cocaine, more than a pound of heroin, approximately \$175,000 in cash and two guns. The building's superintendent was also among those charged.



A violent drug trafficking ring was caught on videotape arming themselves and opening fire in a bid to protect their turf.



Brooklyn Couple Deal Rx Drugs, Launder Cash through Foreign Real Estate

A Brooklyn couple sold large quantities of illegal prescription drugs and funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars in profits into real estate purchases in the Dominican Republic. The couple obtained the medication, including drugs used to treat HIV, from a bodega in Brownsville. The bodega owner, who stockpiled drugs he'd bought from patients with legitimate prescriptions, was also arrested along with three additional participants in the scheme. Police stopped the couple's car in May and seized bags of pills in their original bottles. A court authorized search of their home yielded extensive drug sale records.

A Brooklyn couple sold illegal prescription medication and laundered hundreds of thousands of dollars in drug proceeds through real estate they purchased and developed in the Dominican Republic.

Mexican Drug Smugglers Supply Dealers in New York

A long-term investigation focused on a Mexican drug trafficking organization that smuggled heroin and cocaine across the U.S. for sale in New York. DEA agents seized a total of 22 kilos of heroin (48 lbs.), as well as 9 kilos of cocaine (20 lbs.) and \$250,000 in Manhattan, The Bronx and Nassau County. The international drug organization used a variety of methods to transport the narcotics. In some cases, cars packed with drugs were loaded onto car carriers (large trucks used for long-distance automobile shipping) and driven from the West Coast to New York. In May, New York-based drug dealer Angelo Rodriguez was the recipient of one such delivery. In this case, cars were offloaded in The Bronx and towed to a secure location, where they were stripped of drugs and repacked with cash in preparation for shipment back to the West Coast. DEA agents arrested Rodriguez and a second drug trafficker, Francisco Pena, and seized 10 kilos of heroin, 9 kilos of cocaine and \$250,000 in cash.



\$4.25 Million Rx Drugs Stockpiled in Yonkers

Nearly 6,500 bottles of illegal prescription drugs carrying a street value of \$4.25 million were seized during a court authorized search of a house in Yonkers in June. DEA agents arrested two men, Hector Silvestre and Manuel Delesantos, who are suspected of stockpiling the medications at the house on Hudson Terrace for sale. Stacks of large shipping boxes were filled with dozens of different types of medications, including many used to treat HIV patients. Drugs prescribed for asthma, depression, schizophrenia and acid reflux were also among those seized. The pills were packaged for bulk sale to pharmacies based overseas or purchasing drugs on the black market.



More than \$4 million in illegal prescription drugs, including HIV medications, were seized from a house in Yonkers.

Another smuggling method involved packing heroin into shoes for transport from Mexico to Los Angeles and then driving the heroin across the country in tractor-trailers. During the investigation, agents watched as two drug traffickers, Alma Clymer and Elodia Flores, met a truck in New Jersey,

transferred the shipment to a car and headed into Manhattan. Agents stopped the car at the entrance to the 59th Street Bridge and recovered twelve kilos of heroin in the shape of the soles of shoes. Three drug traffickers were arrested.

Manhattan Heroin Mill: Search Closes Cross Bronx Expressway

Authorities seized more than \$1 million in heroin from a packaging mill in Washington Heights and arrested six drug traffickers, who attempted to dispose of evidence by throwing drugs and guns out the windows. As law enforcement agents with the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force worked to open the heavily fortified door to the heroin mill, located in an 18th floor apartment on Audubon Avenue, members of the drug ring hurled two handguns and thousands of glassines envelopes used to package heroin onto the Cross Bronx Expressway, which passes directly underneath the building. A full kilogram of uncut heroin (over 2 lbs.) wrapped in plastic was also tossed from a balcony and landed on a second floor terrace. One defendant, Pedro Capellan, tried to escape by dangling from the balcony, but law enforcement agents were already positioned on another balcony below and forced him to turn back. The NYPD's Emergency Services Unit closed the Cross Bronx Expressway and nearby George Washington Bridge for a short time in order to ensure the public's safety and recover the contraband. Three kilograms (6 ½ lbs.) of Mexican and Colombian heroin were recovered inside the apartment.

Members of a Manhattan drug trafficking crew threw kilos of heroin and firearms from the 18th floor of a building to the Cross Bronx Expressway.



Heroin Mill Dismantled in The Bronx

In June, DEA agents arrested two drug traffickers and seized approximately 4 kilos (9 lbs.) of heroin in The Bronx. The arrests came after a drug courier, Amauris Perez, was observed delivering a box containing 20,000 glassine envelopes of heroin to a second defendant, Rafeal Roman. At the time of his arrest, Perez was carrying keys to a heroin mill located at 4005 Secor Avenue. Agents searched the Secor Avenue mill and seized three kilos of heroin and \$20,000 in cash. Drug packaging equipment was also recovered, including a kilo press, gas masks, thousands of empty glassine envelopes and four kilos of a substance used for diluting heroin.



Seven Kilos of Heroin and \$750,000 in Cash in Village

Police seized seven kilos of heroin (15 ½ lbs.) and \$750,000 cash from two drug traffickers immediately following a sale in the West Village in March. NYPD detectives with the Manhattan South Narcotics Division were conducting surveillance in the vicinity of Morton Street and West Street and saw Fabricio Diaz remove a brown box from his Lexus and place it in the back of a Mercedes driven by Esteban Garcia. Garcia then handed a red bag to Diaz, who placed it in the trunk of the Lexus. The detectives stopped Diaz and Garcia and an NYPD K-9 Unit detected the presence



Bricks of heroin wrapped in banana leaves were packed inside a cooler. Police seized 7 kilos and \$750,000 in cash.

of drugs in the vehicles. Inside the red bag were seven kilos of heroin wrapped in banana leaves, while the brown box contained \$450,000 in cash. Police found another \$300,000 and a scale inside another bag in the Mercedes. Diaz and Garcia were arrested on drug charges and have since pleaded guilty.

\$1 Million From Marijuana Money-Launderers in Little Italy

In SNP's largest cash seizure from a marijuana trafficking ring, investigators recovered \$1.1 million from an organization operating out of Little Italy. Daniel McGehean, the tenant of an apartment at 153 Mulberry St., and Richard Doyon, a Canadian national, were arrested for their roles in a large-scale hydroponic pot operation as a result of an investigation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The drug organization is suspected of moving at least 200 pounds of marijuana from Canada to the United States. Cash seized from the two men had been shrink-wrap and heat-sealed with packaging equipment, which was found in the apartment along with sales records.



More than \$1 million in drug proceeds seized in Little Italy.

Bronx Bust: 870 Pounds of Marijuana, Gun Recovered

Police seized 870 pounds of marijuana and arrested twin brothers and a third drug trafficker in The Bronx in March. During the investigation, police learned that one of the brothers was in contact with a suspected money launderer who operated in the vicinity of El Paso, Tex. and Juarez, Mexico. SNP obtained a search warrant for an apartment controlled by the twins, Edwin and Edwalder Mercedes, at 655 Pelham Parkway and seized approximately 830 pounds of marijuana, including 30 pounds of potent hydroponic marijuana. A search of another apartment at 2131 Wallace Avenue, where the third defendant lived, yielded approximately 40 pounds of marijuana, \$10,000 in cash and a .22 caliber handgun. As there were no narcotics present, the three defendants were prosecuted by the Bronx District Attorney's Office.

Trial Division

Seventy Pounds of Cocaine and Nine Firearms Seized

An investigation into cocaine trafficking in Manhattan led police to stash houses in Brooklyn and Queens, where officers seized 70 pounds of cocaine with a street value of up to \$10 million and 9 firearms. Following the issuance of court authorized search warrants, three members of the drug ring and one customer were apprehended by officers with the NYPD's Manhattan North Narcotics Bureau in April. Earlier in the day, police observed a drug sale in plain view on the sidewalk in front of a stash house on Greene Avenue in Ridgewood, Queens. Officers recovered nearly 40 pounds of cocaine from a suitcase and a washing machine in that apartment, as well as a loaded handgun. The second stash house in Bushwick, Brooklyn, contained more than 30 pounds of cocaine hidden in a plant stand that was fitted with an electronically operated trap. Eight guns, including two assault weapons, were found inside a speaker, while another assault weapon was under a mattress. Ring leader Carlos Rivera was carrying keys to both stash houses at the time of his arrest.



A drug ring went to great lengths to hide 70 lbs. of cocaine and a small arsenal of guns. Police found the drugs and 9 weapons inside covert hiding places at stash houses in Brooklyn and Queens.

Trafficking Ring Dismantled: Five Columbia Students and Three Off-Campus Suppliers Arrested

Five Columbia University students were arrested for selling drugs at three fraternity houses and other on-campus residences in December. "Operation Ivy League" also led to the arrests and indictment of three of the students' off-campus drug suppliers. One of these suppliers is also charged with plotting to kidnap a pair of rival cocaine traffickers, whom he believed had stolen money from him. During a five-month investigation that began in July, undercover officers with the NYPD's Narcotics Borough Manhattan North made 31 purchases from the five students, who sold a variety of drugs, including cocaine, marijuana, powdered MDMA (ecstasy), Adderall and LSD. In some cases, LSD, a liquid hallucinogen, was applied to candies. Searches of the students' rooms yielded quantities of drugs, scales, thousands of dollars in cash and sales records. Charges against the students are still pending. The three suppliers have since pleaded guilty.



In a search of five Columbia University students' rooms, police recovered various drugs including LSD, MDMA, marijuana and Adderall, as well as scales, records and thousands of dollars in cash.

Operation Domino Effect Topples Drug Ring

Police arrested eight members of a sophisticated cocaine and heroin trafficking ring that sold bulk quantities of drugs to distributors in New York City and along the eastern seaboard from their base in Washington Heights. On a typical day, ring members could be seen playing dominos on the sidewalk as they kept watch over their territory, where they managed to evade law enforcement for many years. During a 10-month wiretap investigation, police made 14 undercover purchases of cocaine. Search warrants executed in November yielded pounds of cocaine and heroin, two loaded handguns and drug packaging equipment. The ring's leader,



More than 3,100 pills were seized from a compartment in the console of a car, including a dozen different types of prescription drugs.

Pedro Guzman Damiani, would also accept payment from other drug organizations to repackage their drugs, using presses he stored at his home on Fort Washington Avenue.

Car Served As Illegal Mobile Pharmacy: Over 3,100 Pills Seized

In January, NYPD officers stopped a car at 21st Street and 10th Avenue in Manhattan and discovered a trove of more than 3,100 pills that were bound for the black market. Prior to the stop, the driver had committed a series of traffic violations and officers detected a strong odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. During a search of the car, police seized a dozen different types of prescription drugs, including more than 780 tablets of oxycodone (commonly sold as OxyContin) and 700 tablets of hydrocodone (commonly sold as Vicodin). The stash also contained over 200 ecstasy pills in the shape of President Obama's head.

Woman Ran Rx Drug Operation from Chelsea Apartment

A Chelsea woman was arrested for selling over \$3,500 in prescription medication to an undercover officer in the span of one month. The officer purchased oxycodone and Vicodin from Olga Miranda during four meetings inside the mailroom in the lobby of her apartment building on West 19th Street in Manhattan between December 2010 and January 2011. Following Miranda's arrest on Jan. 7, police searched her apartment and found over 2,000 pills, including Vicodin, Percocet, methadone and steroids. An examination of the prescriptions used to obtain the drugs revealed they were all written out to Miranda and they all came from the same pharmacy. Approximately 20 different doctors' names appeared on the prescriptions.



A Bronx heroin mill churned out thousands of user-ready "glassine" envelopes stamped with a variety of brand names.

\$1 Million in Heroin Seized From Bronx Mill

Police seized 7 kilograms (15 lbs.) of heroin worth \$1 million in a court-authorized search of a Bronx heroin mill in April. Four members of the drug ring were arrested as the result of an extensive investigation. A search of the Starling Avenue apartment where the mill was located yielded 50,000 user-ready "glassine" envelopes packaged with heroin, as well as 50 different stamps bearing different brand names, such as "Almighty," "Heat Wave" and "Body Bag." Police also recovered boxes of empty glassines, scales, and coffee grinders used for cutting the heroin. In the week leading up to the arrests, defendant Luis Lara was observed travelling to both JFK Airport and Newark Liberty International Airport in a single day. Another defendant was arrested leaving the heroin mill with a backpack containing 3,000 glassines of heroin.

Police Put the Brakes on High-End Cocaine Delivery Service

Two high-end drug dealers were arrested for running a door-to-door cocaine delivery service that catered to the city's elite. The dealers, Manuel Castillo and Juan Torres, marked-up the price of their highly pure cocaine by 300 percent and made deliveries to Manhattan nightclubs, upscale apartments and homes in the Hamptons. An undercover officer with NYPD's Manhattan South Narcotics team made 10 drug purchases during the course of the investigation, which led to A-1 felony charges. Over the course of five years, the delivery business brought in an estimated \$2.5 million. A third defendant was also arrested for assisting in the drug operation.



High-end drug delivery service sold cocaine in small gold jars and catered to celebrity clients.

Former Beauty Queen Arrested for Fake Prescriptions

Former Miss Russia Anna Malova was arrested in May for forging prescriptions in order to obtain Vicodin. Prior to Malova's arrest, investigators with the Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement learned she had stolen prescription sheets from her doctor. New York City pharmacies were alerted. Subsequently, employees at a drug store on Sixth Avenue in the West Village reported to authorities that Malova had come in to request a refill on a prescription. When she returned to the pharmacy to pick up the refill, investigators were waiting and arrested her as she left with a bottle of 85 Vicodin pills. At the time of this arrest, Malova had an open case based on similar charges. That case stemmed from the theft of a prescription pad from a different doctor, which she had used to obtain Vicodin and Klonopin pills from a pharmacy on Fourth Avenue in the East Village in November 2009. An investigation revealed that Malova had filled or attempted to fill numerous forged prescriptions after her arrests.

Williamsburg Heroin Ring: Seven Charged in "Operation King Me"

Seven members of a brazen drug trafficking ring that cornered the heroin market in a section of North Williamsburg, Brooklyn were arrested in November. The defendants peddled heroin and crack in bodegas, apartments, lobbies and on street corners in the vicinity of the Cooper Park Houses, a New York City Housing Authority Development, and catered to customers from surrounding neighborhoods. The charges stem from more than 20 sales to undercover officers with the NYPD's Brooklyn North Narcotics Bureau. Notorious for selling narcotics in open view, members of the ring appeared in Google Maps Street View photographs that depict one of their regular drug spots in front of a bodega at the intersection of Jackson Street and Kingsland Avenue. All of the undercover drug transactions took place within 1,000 feet of a preschool. The group was the subject of numerous community complaints.



A Google Maps Street View image captured a group of heroin dealers at a favorite drug spot in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.



Drug traffickers sold glassines of heroin stamped with the “Coca-Cola” brand in Coney Island and Brighton Beach.

Two Heroin Rings Beached in Southern Brooklyn

Two heroin rings that sold heroin in Coney Island and Brighton Beach were dismantled in July. One organization, headed by Vincent Baker, specialized in “Coca-Cola” brand heroin and supplied several low-level dealers in southern Brooklyn. One of Baker’s customers, Oleg Kolysyuk, owned a variety store on Brighton First St. and stashed the drugs in the pockets of men’s suits and other merchandise he sold. During the investigation, Baker grew wary of law enforcement scrutiny and relocated his business to a parking lot outside an Olive Garden restaurant at the Gateway shopping center in East New York. He was arrested when he went to see his parole officer on a prior conviction. Baker has since pleaded guilty and is serving a nine-year prison term.

The leader of the second drug ring, Joseph Folks, supplied other dealers from a drug spot outside a pizza parlor in Coney Island. At the time of Folks’ arrest police searched his apartment and recovered a loaded handgun, thousands of dollars in cash and a quantity of drugs hidden in a baby wipe container. A one-year-old baby was present in the apartment.

Seventeen Drug Dealers Arrested in Upper Manhattan

Two sophisticated drug crews that sold cocaine, ecstasy and marijuana in the Inwood section of Manhattan were dismantled in April. Police arrested 17 drug dealers and seized one firearm following a nine-month investigation. The two crews controlled opposite sides of Vermilyea Avenue between West 207th Street and Academy Street and intimidated neighborhood residents for approximately three years. In order to avoid law enforcement detection, the groups shared look-outs and avoided making sales outdoors. Surveillance video showed one defendant tampering with a security camera in a lobby. Another drug dealer boasted of knocking out street lights. During the investigation, undercover officers purchased 1,550 pills of ecstasy and 7 ounces of cocaine in more than 24 sales. Police launched the investigation after receiving community complaints.

A SoHo couple did brisk business selling crack from their basement apartment on Sullivan Street.



SoHo Couple Peddled Crack

A couple that sold crack out of their basement apartment on a bustling block in SoHo was arrested in May following a long-term investigation. Antonio and Mary Henriques were the subject of community complaints at the time of their arrests. Undercover officers made numerous drug purchases from the couple, who lived in a building owned by a relative. Police observed buyers arrive early in the morning to line up at the drug spot located close to designer shops and upscale apartment residences. The couple’s conduct was so blatant, they could be seen selling crack in plain view to three customers on the very morning that detectives arrived to arrest them.

2010 Workload

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Arrests | 2,194 |
| Indictments & Superior Court Informations Trials Completed | 1,360 67 |
| Felony Dispositions | |
| Convictions | 1,463 |
| Acquittals | 24 |
| Dismissed | 238 |
| Treatment Dismissals | 102 |
| Conviction Rate | 90% |
| Felony Sentences | |
| State Prison | 817 |
| Jail | 321 |
| Jail & Probation | 63 |
| Probation | 200 |
| Seizures | |
| Cocaine | 1,008 pounds |
| Heroin | 275 pounds |
| Guns Seized | 75 |

Housing Cases

Drug Ring Dismantled inside Brooklyn's Albany Houses

Six drug dealers who sold heroin and crack-cocaine at the Albany Houses in Crown Heights, Brooklyn were arrested in July. The defendants sold narcotics in apartments, public hallways and stairwells inside two buildings at the NYCHA Housing Development. Following a series of shootings at the complex earlier in the year, undercover officers with the NYPD's Brooklyn North Narcotics Division made dozens of buys from six loosely affiliated dealers during a yearlong probe. In one meeting with an undercover officer, a subject of the investigation was videotaped conducting a drug sale with his preschool-aged child in tow. Police searched 11 apartments at the time of the arrests and seized drugs and one firearm.

Twenty-Eight Narcotics Dealers Nabbed In Operation Opera House

Twenty-eight individuals were arrested for selling cocaine, crack, marijuana and heroin at the Amsterdam Houses, a New York City Housing Authority complex located behind Lincoln Center. The complex served as a major hub for drug trafficking in the area. The neighborhood is home to five schools, including Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Performing Arts, Beacon High School and P.S. 191. Undercover NYPD officers made 50 purchases during the nine-month probe, which wrapped up in March. Residents had complained about heavy traffic in the hallways and discarded drug paraphernalia littering the floors in public areas, where many of the sales took place. During the investigation, undercover officers observed drug traffickers using students, who live in the complex and attend city high schools, as look-outs and dealers-in-training.



Twelve Drug Dealers Arrested at Brooklyn's Tompkins Houses

Four loosely-tied drug trafficking rings made over 100 sales of crack-cocaine and heroin to undercover officers and were dismantled in July. Police arrested 12 drug dealers who operated in and around the Tompkins Houses, a NYCHA Housing Development in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. Drug sales were carried out in the lobbies, stairwells, elevators and hallways of the buildings. Members of the four groups would refer customers to one another. In a court authorized search of one apartment that served as a stash house a few blocks from the Tompkins Houses, police found a loaded firearm and 33 zip lock bags of crack.

Alternative Sentencing Division

For addicted criminal offenders, an effective drug treatment program can mean the difference between repeated terms of imprisonment and the ability to lead a productive, law-abiding life. Yet it is not enough to simply conquer addiction. To begin anew, recovering drug users require skills gained through academic and vocational training, along with supportive counseling. The Alternative Sentencing Division has successfully worked with thousands of addicted criminal defendants over the past 20 years to provide them with the tools they need to permanently close the door on crime and dependence.

Through SNP's pioneering Drug Treatment Alternatives to Prison programs, highly experienced staff members evaluate offenders to identify those who are likely to reap the benefits of treatment. Eligible candidates are given the opportunity to enter an appropriate program, most often at a long-term residential facility, instead of going to prison.

Residential programs typically last for at least one year and are followed by an additional term of supervision. Offenders who are employed and have strong community ties may be placed into short-term residential programs or, in rare cases, directly into intensive outpatient treatment programs. When offenders enter treatment, their sentences are deferred. Upon successful completion, charges may be dismissed. However, failure to abide by the rules of a program can result in a sanction. If offenders commit a new crime, their original prison sentence may be imposed.

Since October 2009, judges are authorized to place defendants in court-sponsored diversion programs. Although a judge determines which addicted felony offenders qualify for these programs, and court staff supervises them, SNP continues to offer its expertise in screening.



Investigators Unit

The Special Narcotics Investigators Unit works with Assistant District Attorneys and federal and state law enforcement agencies in combating drug activity throughout the five boroughs of New York City. During 2010, the unit opened 27 new investigations, which resulted in the arrests of 134 offenders. Of that total, 68 were charged with top felony counts and 36 were charged with violations of money laundering laws. Additionally, the unit and its DEA and NYPD partners were involved in a total of 54 cash seizures totaling millions of dollars in narcotics trafficking proceeds.

| 2010 Investigators Unit Activity | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| New Investigations | 27 |
| Total Arrests | 134 |
| A- Felony Arrests | 68 |
| Money Laundering Arrests | 36 |
| Weapons Seized | 13 |
| DRUG SEIZURES | |
| Cocaine | 260 Pounds |
| Heroin | 122 Pounds |
| SEARCH WARRANTS | 42 |

Created in 1992, the unit fulfills two primary areas of responsibility: investigations and enforcement support. The majority of the investigators are law enforcement veterans from the NYPD's Narcotics Division and the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force. They develop their own cases or work jointly with law enforcement agencies in large-scale narcotics and money laundering investigations. With the emergence of narcotics trafficking over the Internet, select investigators have specialized in this area.

A Chief Investigator oversees activities of the investigators, monitors all investigation-related expenditures and acts as the liaison with the squad of NYPD detectives assigned to SNP.

Collaborating with Law Enforcement Partners

Staffed with the most experienced narcotics investigators in the city, the unit plays a vital role in partnering with other law enforcement agencies. The SNP investigators bring an unmatched level of expertise, along with cutting-edge investigative techniques and technology, to their cases.

Over the past year, the Investigators Unit has collaborated on cases with local and federal authorities in all the boroughs of New York City, Westchester County, Long Island, New York State, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Florida, California, Ohio, Minnesota, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Colombia.

Operation Bad Medicine

A case that exemplifies the key role SNP investigators play in their multi-agency collaborations involved a prescription drug ring that diverted 43,000 oxycodone pills worth \$1 million through a sophisticated scheme. This labor-intensive investigation, which began as a referral from the Staten Island District Attorney's Office and the New York State Health



Defendant sold pills from this Lickety-Split ice cream truck

Department's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE), led to the indictment and arrest of 31 defendants, including one ring leader who sold pills from an ice cream truck. Working closely with BNE, the investigators learned that a high volume of oxycodone pills were entering the black market on Staten Island through a single source. A Manhattan doctor's generated more than 300 forged prescriptions.

Investigators devoted hundreds of man-hours to tracking down the fraudulent prescriptions and interviewing witnesses and pharmacists. Ultimately, the trail led to the doctor's office manager, who stole prescription sheets from her employer and then sold them to two leaders of the Staten Island drug ring. These ring leaders recruited more than two-dozen runners to fill prescriptions and paid them in pills and/or cash. Several members of the ring were also implicated in armed robberies at pharmacies. Many had drug dependency problems.

Heroin

In 2010, SNP investigators continued to lend their expertise to the DEA and the NYPD in targeting heroin packaging mills. New York City serves as a major hub for large-scale heroin packaging operations, but there are signs that drug traffickers are feeling the effects of successful law enforcement efforts. Major traffickers are increasingly relocating the mills where they package heroin out of The Bronx and Upper Manhattan to less predictable locations. Over the past year, heroin mills were dismantled in quiet residential sections of Yonkers, Fort Lee, N.J. and Cornwall, N.Y., as well as an upscale apartment on West 43rd Street near bustling Times Square.

Curtains for Theater District Heroin Mill

A booming heroin mill located in Manhattan's Theater District was dismantled in November following a long-term investigation. More than a kilogram of heroin was seized from a West 43rd Street apartment that housed the drug ring's packaging operation, just blocks from Times Square. Four drug traffickers were arrested by members of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force and SNP investigators. At the time of the arrests, mill workers had been busily packaging heroin into user-ready "glassine" envelopes. Investigators found piles of loose heroin on tables alongside drug packaging paraphernalia. Tens of thousands of glassines had already been filled and wrapped into bundles for delivery. A variety of stamps were used to market the heroin under different brand names, including "Jersey Boys," "Cats & Dogs," "King Kong" and "95 South." The investigation revealed that mill was in operation at the apartment building for approximately two weeks prior to the arrests.

Glassine envelopes of heroin are bundled into "bricks" and wrapped in magazine paper. A Times Square heroin mill used numerous brand names to market heroin, including "95 South."



Investigators and DEA Agents interrupted heroin mill workers packaging heroin at this table in an upscale apartment on West 43rd Street near Times Square.



Legal Training Unit

LEGAL TRAINING UNIT

The Legal Training Unit develops and implements the professional training curriculum offered to assistant district attorneys. The unit selects speakers, lectures and workshops that address topics that include investigatory and prosecutorial techniques, legal procedures, and changes in the law, and effective approaches in the prosecution of felony narcotic and related crimes.

In 2010, the Legal Training Unit offered numerous workshops and lecture series throughout the year to both experienced and new assistant district attorneys. Presentations included: Handling a Case with DNA Evidence, Recent Developments in Search and Seizure Law, Preparation for a Wiretap Trial, Impact of Padilla v. Kentucky on Judicial Diversion, Subpoena Practice, Identification Law, Interviewing Police Witnesses, and Search Warrant Law and Practice.

The training curriculum complies with the regulations and guidelines of the New York State Mandatory Continuing Legal Education program and all courses are open to prosecutors from the city's District Attorneys' Offices and other offices in the state. The office has been an accredited provider of the State's Continuing Legal Education Program since 2000.

For over a decade, SNP has devoted a portion of its resources to training programs offered to hundreds of local and federal enforcement and criminal justice personnel in New York and other areas of the country. During the year, senior staff lectured on narcotics investigations and prosecutions at the New York State District Attorney's Association Summer College, the New York Prosecutors Training Institute (NYPTI), New York Police Department's Organized Crime Control Division and Narcotics Division, and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force (HIDTA).

2010 Training Activities

CLE

- 20 Courses Offered
- 23.5 Credit Hours
- 362 Certificates of Attendance Issued

NYPD

- Quarterly Courtroom Testimony training for new investigators and undercovers.
- Training on Investigations for Citywide Narcotics Comands

HIDTA

- Monthly Courtroom Testimony training for state, local and federal agency law enforcement personnel

NYPD Special Narcotics Team

NYPD Special Narcotics Team

The New York City Police Department has assigned a team of detectives to the office from the Narcotics Division's Organized Crime Control Bureau since 1972. The Special Projects Unit, as it is known, is under the command of a senior lieutenant who serves as a liaison between both agencies. Within SNP, the team's detectives are assigned to either the Search Warrant Unit or the Technical Unit.

Expert at tracking, safekeeping and presentation of electronically recorded evidence, the detectives also provide support on search warrant investigations and maintain citywide repositories for electronically recorded evidence and SNP search warrants.

Beginning in 2009, the unit assumed the responsibility of tracking all seized illegal narcotics and marijuana shipped to New York City via the United States Postal Service and common carrier services such as UPS and FEDEX. In 2010, the NYPD seized 118 packages originating in 13 states and 7 different countries, including the Dominican Republic, Bangladesh, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Morocco and Jamaica. Of the domestic packages, 50 were from California and 35 from Arizona. A total of 2,400 pounds of marijuana and 4 ½ pounds of cocaine were seized. The tracking of this information is used for prosecutions and to assist common carriers in the prevention of the shipment of contraband.

SEARCH WARRANT UNIT

The Search Warrant Unit prepares search warrants and affidavits and expedites requests through the SNP. The detectives keep track of all confiscated evidence and maintain a database on arrests and seizures resulting from the execution of search warrants. The unit also educates new investigators on search warrants procedures. In 2010, the unit processed 1,024 search warrants.

TECHNICAL UNIT

The Technical Unit tracks and controls "chain of custody" for electronically recorded evidence and makes certain that all audio/video evidence is secure. The unit is responsible for the creation and testimony of grand jury/trial wiretap composite recordings and processes digital photographic evidence as well as data evidence.



Support Services Units

FISCAL

All agency fiscal activities including the production and submission of funding requests to federal, state and city funding agencies as well as the monitoring of expenditures fall under the responsibility of the Fiscal Unit. To that end, the unit assesses and approves purchases and payment vouchers, disbursement of funds such as petty cash and payroll coordination; enforces fiscal policy; conducts internal audits; and reviews and approves agency procurements.

PERSONNEL

The Personnel Unit oversees and implements procedures related to the assignment or transfer of assistant district attorneys from the office of the five county District Attorneys and the recruitment of managerial, administrative and clerical personnel. Unit staff participates in planning, developing and executing employee programs and policies for all staff. The unit disseminates information on mandatory programs and policies for all city agencies and monitors implementation of procedures; provides facts on citywide policies and labor relations issues; and maintains time and leave records for all staff. The unit is responsible for the bi-weekly distribution of paychecks and serves as liaison with the citywide payroll management system.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Public Information Unit disseminates information about the office and responds to inquiries from members of the media, government agencies, advocacy groups, and individuals on the status of cases, legal decisions, legislative action, citywide drug trafficking trends and the results of joint enforcement efforts.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES (IT)

Information Technologies develops, establishes and administers OSNP's computer and telecommunication systems. The unit identifies needs and puts in place systems that effectively merge technology with office processes. IT also provides a variety of case-related services including

Case Information: captures and tracks data pertaining to all cases prosecuted by the office, from arrest to disposition. The section prepares regular reports and ad hoc reports on narcotics activities, trends, and statistical analyses. Unit staff are assigned to each Trial Division bureau to coordinate data capture and provide additional support.

Litigation Support: provides pre-trial and in-court technology support including exhibit preparation and presentation.

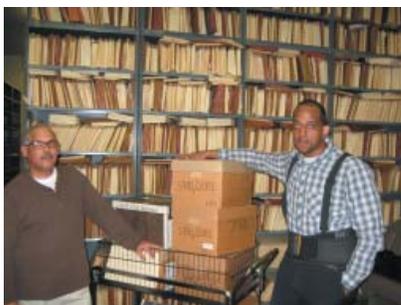
Analyst Services: prepares and processes subpoenas, analyzes phone records and provides background searches using public records and law enforcement specific databases.

Records Management: files, registers and maintains a record of closed and bench warranted case files and processes parole requests.



Human Resources professionals administer payroll and benefits for agency staff.

IT staff provide case tracking, litigation support and numerous other technology based services.



TRIAL PREPARATION ASSISTANTS (TPAS)

Trial Preparation Assistants (TPAs) are assigned to the Investigations Division, the Trial Division, Part N, and the Alternative Sentencing Division. Trial Division and Investigation Division TPAs track cases, maintain case records, gather reports and legal papers required by assistant district attorneys, handle arrangements when prisoners have to be produced in court, and help assistants prepare for grand jury and trial presentations. Alternative Sentencing Bureau TPAs interview defendants who are diverted to treatment and track their progress. Part N TPAs assist in tracking plea offers, grand jury actions and case dispositions that take place in the Part.



EXTRADITIONS/DETAINERS

The unit administers the return of fugitives apprehended or in custody in other jurisdictions and in foreign countries that have extradition treaties with the United States.



TPAs support the work of each legal division in the office.

GRAND JURY REPORTERS

Grand Jury Reporters record, produce and maintain transcripts of confidential testimony presented before the grand juries.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES

The unit interprets and translates for non-English speaking witnesses in debriefings with investigators and assistant district attorneys and during testimony before the grand jury; provides written translation and transcription services for evidentiary consent and wiretap recordings that contain dialogue in a foreign language; and translation of foreign language documents.



Stenographers record verbatim testimony in every Grand Jury presentation.

OPERATIONS

The Operations Unit is responsible for office maintenance, reproduction of documents, mail delivery, messenger services, housekeeping requests, office supply inventory and disbursement.

The People of SNP



Executive & Legal Staff

Bridget G. Brennan
Special Narcotics Prosecutor

Steven M. Goldstein
Chief Assistant District Attorney

Kristine Hamann
Executive Assistant
District Attorney

Rhonda Ferdinand
Deputy Chief Assistant
Chief of Alternative Sentencing

Joseph J. Tesoriero
Executive Assistant District Attorney
Chief of Investigations

Thomas G. Van Noy
Deputy Administrative
Assistant District Attorney

Catherine A. Christian
Counsel for Special
Projects

Meggan K. Dodd
Counsel to the
Special Narcotics Prosecutor

Jane E. Tully
Chief
Bureau 30/60

Lisa DePasquale
Chief
Bureau 40/50

Peter M. Kougasian
Chief
Bureau 70/80

Jodie E. Kane
Deputy Bureau Chief SIB

David Lauscher
Deputy Bureau Chief

Steven R. Miller
Deputy Bureau Chief

Paul H. Harvey
Deputy Bureau Chief

Susan Krischel
Deputy Bureau Chief SIB

Susan N. Lanzatella
Chief
Narcotics Gang Unit

Clark S. Abrams
Money Laundering and
Financial Crimes Coordinator

Marcel J. Philippe
Forfeiture Unit Chief

Lisa M. Tompkins
Counsel to the
Special Investigations Bureau

Nigel I. Farinha
Deputy Chief

Leon Schwartzman
Chief Investigator

Kati Cornell
Public Information Director

Assistant District Attorneys

NEW YORK COUNTY

Clark S. Abrams
Mark E. Bini
Erin Brzeski
April G. Bullard
Thomas Burke
Edward Burns
J. Carolina Chavez
Catherine A. Christian
Michael K. Clarke
Daniel Davis
Lisa DePasquale
Meggan K. Dodd
Kathleen V. Doyle
Christopher C. Edel
Nigel I. Farinha
Rhonda Ferdinand
Charlotte Fishman
Margaret E. Gandy
Nina Giuliano
Evan Glaberson
Matthieu Goddenye

Steven M. Goldstein
Daniel Haier
Kristine Hamann
Brigid Harrington
Nowles Heinrich
Joymarie Hohenthaler
Joseph T. Ippolito
Jodie E. Kane
Bradley King
Eli Koppel
Peter M. Kougasian
Susan Krischel
Brian A. Kudon
Christopher LaForgia
Susan N. Lanzatella
David Lauscher
Jeffrey Linehan
Francesca Liquori
Michael Lui
James Mandolfo
Nicholas J. Mauro
Atalanta Mihas

Terence J. O'Leary
Alexander Owen
Marcel J. Philippe
Kaitrin Roberts
Jannine Rowser
Aaron Rubin
Kofi Sansculotte
Patrick Scruggs
Bryan Serino
Elizabeth Sheetz
Daniel Shin
Kathryn Spota
Adenyi H. Taiwo
Sandra Talbott
Anne M. Ternes
Joseph J. Tesoriero
Jane E. Tully
Thomas G. Van Noy
Richard Washington
Justin K. Wechsler
Rosemary Yu

BRONX COUNTY

William Novak
Lisa M. Tompkins
Nicholas S. Tuffarelli

KINGS COUNTY

Michael L. Brenner
Frederick S. Hartwell
Anju Malhotra
John McNiff
Steven R. Miller
Ari M. Rottenberg

QUEENS COUNTY

Paul H. Harvey

RICHMOND COUNTY

Michele R. Molfetta
Ryan Sakacs
Alexander Shapiro

Managerial & Support Staff

ALTERNATIVE SENT. DIVISION

Berneatha Champagne,
Support

EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Joan Maloney, Supervisor

Grand Jury Reporters Unit

Jodi Arnold
Gladys Ayan
Carol Bach
Bonnie Greenstein
Mirelle Monestime
Reva Palmer

Interpretation and Translation Services

Rosa Ruales

Operations

Harry Reyes
Albert Nichols

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

Carla Jenkins
Hysa Moultrie-Miller
David Rosenberg,
Legal Assistant

FISCAL

Lei Yuan, Director
Regina Mavasheva
Krisna Ramkhelawan
Jenny Lai

GRAND JURY WARDENS

John Gillespie, Sergeant
Dennis Creegan
Kim Foster
Glenn O'Connor

INVESTIGATORS

Leon Schwartzman,
Chief Investigator

PERSONNEL

Beatrice Miller, Director
Mary Davis, Deputy Director
Darlene Cole-Jeffrey
Craig Jelen
Diane Johnson
Sylvia Lucas

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Kati Cornell, Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

William Power, Director
Chanyute Oottamakorn,
Deputy Director
Management Information Systems
Luisa Boireau, Analyst
Joseph Cullen
Alden Foster
Christopher Spies
Gregory Wilson

Case Information

Belinda Berry
Alisa Figeroa
Edward Montes
Jocelyn Pilotin-Lazar
Pilar Quinones
Sylvia Rhodes
Victor Rodriguez
Anne Roy

Bureau Coordinators

Debra Danielson, 40/50
Karen Johnson, 70/80
Renee Williams, 30/60

NYPD TEAM

Lt. Al Vitale
Det. Christopher R. Henderson
Det. Karyn Keenan
Det. Eli Slavkin

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

Alysha Plaskett, Analyst
Linda O'Leary, Supervising TPA
Christian Bermudez
Jonathan Courtney
Irina Diaz
Daniel Maldonado
Diana Valentin
Bianca Vitale

Forfeiture Investigations Unit

John Polizzotto, Coordinator

Narcotics Gang Unit

Christopher Torres

Investigators Unit Support

Belinda McNeill

TRIAL PREPARATION ASSISTANTS

Alternative Sentencing Division

Rochelle Davis, Supervising TPA
Akua Akoto
Tammy O'Hara
Andrea Obregon
Odisina Okeya
Justice Wellington

Trial Division

Bureau 30/60
Philip Lambert, Supervising TPA
Cindy Cintron

Bureau 40/50
Michelle Myton, Supervising TPA
Chanmattie Panlall

Bureau 70/80

William Reeves, Supervising TPA
Maddalena Coppola

Extraditions

Carla Jenkins, Coordinator

Part N

Desiree Creary

Credits

EDITORS

Kristine Hamann
Peter Kougasian
Joan Maloney
Joseph Tesoriero

MANAGING AND COPY EDITOR

Kati Cornell

DESIGN & LAYOUT EDITOR

William Power

PHOTOGRAPHY

Chanyute Oottamakorn
Marcel Philippe
Laura J. Badger & Margarita McDowell,
New York County District Attorney's Office
Drug Enforcement Administration,
New York Field Division
New York City Police Department
New York State Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement
New York State Police
Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor,
Investigators Unit

