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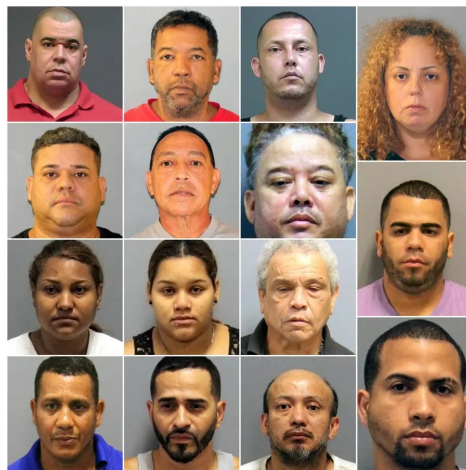
15 Cocaine Ring Leaders, Members Arrested In Plainfield: AG

All three drug rings allegedly distributed large amounts of cocaine, and the two rings also distributed heroin: Attorney General.



Alexis Tarrazi, Patch Staff P

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PLAINFIELD, NJ — As part of "Operation Snow Bank," 15 alleged leaders and members of three separate cocaine trafficking networks that operated in Plainfield were indicted on charges, Attorney General Gurbir Grewal announced.

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The three drug trafficking rings were allegedly headed by Andres Hernandez-Diaz, 46, Julian Mirambeaux, 47, and Manuel Castillo-Concepcion, 38, all of Plainfield.

It is alleged that the network run by Hernandez-Diaz later was run by Luis Andino, 44, of Bronx, N.Y., after Hernandez-Diaz fled to the Dominican Republic, according to Grewal.

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The Division of Criminal Justice Gangs & Organized Crime Bureau obtained three state grand jury indictments on Friday against the 15 people with various charges second-degree conspiracy; first-, second- or third-degree drug

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All three drug rings allegedly distributed large amounts of cocaine, and the two rings headed by Mirambeaux and Castillo-Concepcion also allegedly distributed heroin.

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The eight-month investigation ended with the arrests in July 2017 after a search of homes in Plainfield and North Plainfield where some of the 15 people lived and, in some cases, allegedly cut and packaged their drugs for distribution, according to the release.

During the operation, investigators seized more than 1.5 kilograms of cocaine, more than two ounces of heroin, and more than \$35,000 cash.

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“Two of my top priorities as Attorney General are tackling drug addiction and

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rings, we kept large supplies of addictive narcotics from reaching the streets of Plainfield and likely reduced the gun violence sparked by street-level dealing,” said Grewal. “This is a great example of law enforcement agencies collaborating to marshal the resources needed for a far-reaching investigation.”

The indictment against the ring headed by Andres Hernandez-Diaz charges the following:

1. Andres Hernandez-Diaz, 46, of Plainfield
2. Luis Andino, 44, of Bronx, New York
3. Domingo Berito, 58, of Plainfield
4. Rodolfo Cardona, 58, of Highland Park
5. Esperanza Garcia, 42, of Bronx, New York
6. Edwin Lambur, 39, Orange

The indictment against the ring headed by Julian Mirambeaux charges the following:

1. Julian Mirambeaux, 47, of Plainfield
2. Elizabeth Concepcion-Flores, 38, of Plainfield (wife of Julian Mirambeaux)
3. Santander Gonzalez, 60, of Plainfield
4. Charlie Lopez-Rodriguez, 26, of Plainfield
5. Raylimi Mirambeaux, 19, of Plainfield (daughter of Julian Mirambeaux)

The indictment against the ring headed by Manuel Castillo-Concepcion charges the following:

1. Manuel Castillo-Concepcion, 38, of Plainfield

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Concepcion)

3. Mauro Collao-Villegas, 41, of Plainfield

4. Elvin Maisonet, 45, of Paterson

The cooperative investigation called “Operation Snow Bank” was led by the New Jersey State Police Trafficking Central Unit, Plainfield Police Division, ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, with assistance from the FBI Newark Office, Union County Prosecutor’s Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, FBI Somerset Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office, New Brunswick Police Department, Perth Amboy Police Department, HSI Virginia Office, Stafford County, Va., Sheriff’s Office, and the New York City Police Department.

First-degree drug charges carry a sentence of 10 to 20 years in state prison and a fine of up to \$500,000. Second-degree charges carry a sentence of five to 10 years in state prison and a fine of up to \$150,000. Third-degree charges carry a sentence of three to five years in state prison. The third-degree drug charges carry maximum fines of \$35,000 or \$75,000, while the third-degree money laundering charges carry a fine of up to \$500,000.

The indictments were handed up to Superior Court Judge Robert C. Billmeier in Mercer County, who assigned them to Union County, where the defendants will be arraigned in Superior Court at a later date.

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(Image via Attorney General: Andres Hernandez-Diaz, 46, of Plainfield; Luis Andino, 44, of Bronx, New York; Domingo Berito, 58, of Plainfield; Rodolfo Cardona, 58, of Highland Park; Esperanza Garcia, 42, of Bronx, New York;

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Concepcion-Flores, 38, of Plainfield (wife of Julian Mirambeaux); Santander Gonzalez, 60, of Plainfield; Charlie Lopez-Rodriguez, 26, of Plainfield; Raylimi Mirambeaux, 19, of Plainfield (daughter of Julian Mirambeaux); Manuel Castillo-Concepcion, 38, of Plainfield; Bernardo Castillo-Concepcion, 51, of Plainfield (brother of Manuel Castillo-Concepcion); Mauro Collao-Villegas, 41, of Plainfield; and Elvin Maisonet, 45, of Paterson)

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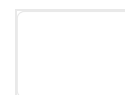
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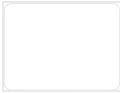
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