WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE			
News Media Release			

INFORMATION: POSSESSION OF COCAINE ARRESTS

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FACT SUMMARY: DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE NARCOTICS UNIT WORKED JOINTLY WITH AGENTS FROM THE DEA ON AN INVESTIGATION INTO A DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION BASED IN ROCKFORD. AS PART OF THIS INVESTIGATION, ON 11-29-2016, WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE CANINE DEPUTY ERIC PEARSON WAS ON PATROL AT BYPASS 20 AND 11TH STREET. DEPUTY PEARSON SAW A WHITE HONDA CIVIC DRIVEN BY ONE MALE COMMIT A TRAFFIC VIOLATION AND CONDUCTED A TRAFFIC STOP. DURING THE TRAFFIC STOP, CANINE CHICO CONDUCTED A SNIFF SEARCH ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE CAR AND ALERTED TO THE ODOR OF AN ILLEGAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. DEPUTIES THEN SEARCHED THE CAR AND FOUND A LARGE BLACK DUFFEL BAG IN THE TRUNK. THE DUFFEL BAG WAS LATER FOUND TO CONTAIN 26 KILOGRAM BUNDLES OF SUSPECTED COCAINE. THE DRIVER, EMANUEL R. NIEVES, WAS PLACED UNDER ARREST IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SUSPECTED COCAINE WAS FOUND.

FOLLOWING THE TRAFFIC STOP, WCSO INVESTIGATORS CONTINUED TO INVESTIGATE AND LOCATED A RESIDENCE IN THE **3100** BLOCK OF SEWELL STREET THAT WAS CONNECTED TO THIS TRAFFIC STOP. INVESTIGATORS WENT TO THAT ADDRESS AND SAW THE OCCUPANTS OF A CHEVROLET PICKUP TRUCK BACK INTO THE DRIVEWAY AND REMOVE A SAFE FROM WITHIN THE RESIDENCE AND PLACE IT INTO THE TRUNK. THE VEHICLE LEFT THE RESIDENCE AND WAS STOPPED BY WCSO INVESTIGATORS. CANINE DEPUTY STEVE MARTELLARO RESPONDED AND DIRECTED HIS CANINE TO CONDUCT A SNIFF SEARCH ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE TRUCK. HIS CANINE PARTNER, BULLET, GAVE A POSITIVE ALERT ON THE TRUCK AND SAFE. POLICE OBTAINED A SEARCH WARRANT TO SEARCH FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE SAFE AND FOUND A LARGE AMOUNT OF UNITED STATES CURRENCY AND 43 GRAMS OF COCAINE. THE TWO OCCUPANTS OF THE TRUCK WERE IDENTIFIED AS JOEL MARQUEZ HERRERA AND SALVADOR GALVEZ AND WERE ARRESTED FOR POSSESSING THE COCAINE IN THE SAFE.

DEFENDANTS:

~EMANUEL R. NIEVES (DOB: 7-16-87)

-CHARGE: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER MORE THAN 900 GRAMS OF COCAINE. -BOND WAS SET AT \$3,000,000 CASH BOND. (CANNOT POST 10%).

~JOEL MARQUEZ HERRERA (DOB: 4-22-69)

-CHARGE: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER 15 TO 100 GRAMS OF COCAINE. -BOND WAS SET AT \$2,000,000 CASH BOND. (CANNOT POST 10%).

~SALVADOR GALVEZ (DOB: 8-21-66)

-CHARGE: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER 15 TO 100 GRAMS OF COCAINE. -BOND WAS SET AT \$1,000,000 CASH BOND. (CANNOT POST 10%)

ACCORDING TO COURT ORDER, BEFORE THE DEFENDANTS CAN BE RELEASED ON BOND, THEY MUST PROVE THAT THEIR BOND MONEY CAME FROM A LAWFUL SOURCE.

EVIDENCE SEIZED:

~26 KILOGRAMS (OR 65 LBS.) OF POWDER COCAINE (FOUND IN A DUFFEL BAG IN HONDA TRUNK)

~STREET VALUE= \$1,040,000.00

~LARGE AMOUNT OF UNITED STATES CURRENCY (MORE THAN \$10,000.00)

THE CHARGES AGAINST EMANUEL R. NIEVES, JOEL MARQUEZ HERRERA AND SALVADOR GALVEZ ARE MERELY ACCUSATIONS. THEY ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.