

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Brian J. Stretch Northern District of California

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METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS IN PRISON

SAN JOSE – Baldemar Valencia Alcazar was sentenced yesterday to 12 years in prison for his role in a conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute, methamphetamine, announced United States Attorney Brian J. Stretch and Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent in Charge John J. Martin. The sentence follows a guilty plea entered July 6, 2016, in which Valencia admitted to conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Valencia, 35, a citizen of Mexico who was living in Sunnyvale at the time of the offense, admitted he conspired with other individuals to distribute more than 7.4 kilograms of methamphetamine in the Northern District of California between June 30, 2015, and August 4, 2015. In furtherance of the conspiracy, he distributed methamphetamine and possessed with the intent to distribute methamphetamine on numerous occasions during the course of his participation in the conspiracy. Valencia was indicted by a federal grand jury on October 8, 2015. He was charged with one count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and two counts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, in violation of 21

U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii). Valencia pleaded guilty to all three counts. There was no plea agreement in this case.

The sentence was handed down by the Honorable Edward J. Davila, U.S. District Judge. In addition to the prison term, Judge Davila sentenced Valencia to a 5-year period of supervised release. The defendant has been in federal custody since December 3, 2015, and will begin serving his sentence immediately.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Bill Gullotta and Chinhayi Cadet are prosecuting the case with the assistance of Theresa Benitez and Lakisha Holliman. This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, a focused multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task force investigating and prosecuting the most significant drug trafficking organizations throughout the United States by leveraging the combined expertise of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

Further Information:

Case #: CR 15-481EJD

A copy of this press release will be placed on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at www.usdoj.gov/usao/can.

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's website at www.cand.uscourts.gov.

All press inquiries to the U.S. Attorney's Office should be directed to Abraham Simmons at (415) 436-7264 or by e-mail at Abraham.Simmons@usdoj.gov.