



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Melinda Haag  
Northern District of California**

FOR IMMEDIATE  
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## **SAN LEANDRO METHAMPHETAMINE DEALER SENTENCED TO 188 MONTHS**

SAN FRANCISCO - Candido Bonavente was sentenced on June 9, 2011, to 188 months in prison for conspiring to distribute methamphetamine and possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it, United States Attorney Melinda Haag announced.

Mr. Bonavente, 34, of San Leandro, and co-defendants John Legrand of Hayward, David Barrientos of Hayward, John Nathan of Oakland, Antonio Lacerda of Newark, and Gerald Sullivan of Dublin, were indicted by a federal grand jury on December 8, 2009 of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute methamphetamine. Mr. Bonavente and co-defendants Legrand, Barrientos, and Lacerda were also charged with possession with intent to distribute and distribution of methamphetamine.

Mr. Bonavente pleaded guilty on September 23, 2010 to conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute methamphetamine. According to the plea agreement and other court documents, from approximately July 2007 through October 2009, Mr. Bonavente distributed methamphetamine in the San Francisco Bay Area. In furtherance of this conspiracy, he would regularly purchase methamphetamine from his source and thereafter resell it to others, including co-defendants Legrand, Barrientos, Nathan, Lacerda, and Sullivan, knowing that the persons to whom he sold methamphetamine intended to resell it to others. To aid in the sale of methamphetamine, Mr. Bonavente arranged to have others work for him to deliver the methamphetamine and pick-up payments owed to him by his customers.

Mr. Bonavente's sentence was handed down by United States District Court Judge Jeffrey S. White. Mr. Bonavente has been in custody since his arrest in December 2009.

Co-defendant Gerald Sullivan pled guilty to conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute methamphetamine on September 9, 2010 and was sentenced on January 20, 2011 to 57 months in prison. He has already begun serving his sentence.

Co-defendant John Nathan pled guilty to conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute methamphetamine on January 13, 2011 and is scheduled to be sentenced on June 30, 2011.

Co-defendant Antonio Lacerda pled guilty to possession with intent to distribute and distribution of methamphetamine on March 24, 2011 and is scheduled to be sentenced on July 7, 2011.

Co-defendant David Barrientos pled guilty to conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and distribute methamphetamine on February 24, 2011 and is scheduled to be sentenced on July 14, 2011.

Co-defendants Nathan, Lacerda, and Barrientos are in custody.

AUSA Denise Marie Barton is the Assistant U.S. Attorney who is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Hui Chen and Elizabeth Garcia. The investigation was the result of joint investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the San Leandro Police Department. The investigation was conducted and funded in part by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), a multi-agency task force that coordinates long-term narcotics trafficking investigations.

**Further Information:**

Case #: 09-1163 JSW

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's Web site at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/can](http://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 Web site at [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov).

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