



News Release

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Drug Dealer Sentenced to 74 months in Prison

Carver County Attorney Mark Metz announced that Harris Neria Perez, age 33, of Prior Lake, was sentenced on December 16, 2011, to a term of 74 months in prison after a plea of guilty to the charge of Controlled Substance Crime in the First Degree.

Agents with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the Southwest Metro Drug Task Force, which is affiliated with the Carver County Sheriff's Office, received information that Perez would be delivering eight ounces of methamphetamine (approximately 227 grams) to a drug deal scheduled to occur at the Super Target in Chaska on April 1, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.

Agents took up position at the Super Target and observed Perez arrive in his car. Agents then observed another man park near Perez, exit his car, and approach Perez's car. At this point, the agents approached and detained the suspects.

The agents searched the trunk of Perez's car and located a cowboy boot which contained a false bottom. Inside the false bottom of the boot, agents located 82 grams of methamphetamine. During a search of the passenger compartment of the vehicle, agents located an eyeglasses container under the driver's seat which held 174 grams of methamphetamine. All total, agents located 256 grams of methamphetamine which has an approximate street value in excess of \$10,000.

Metz commented, "The excellent work of law enforcement and Assistant County Attorney Dawn O'Rourke brought about a result that best protects public safety. Drugs continue to be a major driver of criminal activity and wreak havoc in the lives of families. Our office, along with the law enforcement community, will continue to place significant effort to bring those that sell drugs in our community to justice."

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