

December 2, 2021

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL CHARGES FORMER COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICER IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today announced charges against a former police officer of the Cook County Sheriff's office for his alleged involvement in trafficking cocaine from Mexico into Illinois.

Juan Carmona, 46, of Burr Ridge, Illinois, was charged with calculated criminal drug conspiracy, criminal drug conspiracy, controlled substance trafficking, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and possession of a controlled substance. The case is pending in Will County Circuit Court, and if convicted, Carmona faces up to 30 to 120 years in prison. Carmona's bond has been set at \$1 million, and his next court date is Dec. 10.

"I have prioritized collaborations with local and federal law enforcement as part of my office's work to protect Illinois communities, and I am particularly proud when those collaborations result in charges against those who traffic drugs across county, state or even international boundaries," Raoul said. "I appreciate the diligence of Homeland Security Investigations and Will County State's Attorney James W. Glasgow's office, which supports us as we seek to interrupt criminal enterprises and hold accountable individuals who traffic and sell dangerous narcotics."

According to Raoul's indictment, in 2019, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) discovered Carmona's alleged involvement in an international cocaine trafficking operation. In July 2019, HSI agents recovered over 16 kilograms of cocaine from two Illinois residences Carmona owned. Carmona allegedly told agents the cocaine was from Mexico and admitted to being part of an operation that trafficked the cocaine into Illinois.

"This indictment is a great example of what can be accomplished when federal and local law enforcement agencies work in collaboration," said R. Sean Fitzgerald, acting special agent in charge for HSI Chicago. "HSI will continue to ensure that individuals involved in illegal drug trafficking operations are held accountable."

Raoul's office and Will County State's Attorney James W. Glasgow's office will co-prosecute the case against Carmona.

"These charges are the result of a cooperative, joint collaborative effort between law enforcement agencies which is critical in a case such as this involving multiple jurisdictions," said Glasgow.

Previously, Raoul's office charged Luis Felipe Cantu-Reyes – who was also allegedly involved in the trafficking operation – with controlled substance trafficking, calculated criminal drug conspiracy, criminal drug conspiracy, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, possession of a controlled substance, money laundering and conspiracy to commit money laundering. Cantu-Reyes' case is pending in Will County Circuit Court.

The public is reminded that the defendants are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Assistant Attorney General Gregg Gansmann is handling the case for Raoul's Statewide Grand Jury Bureau, and Assistant State's Attorney Dant Foulk is handling the case for the Will County State's Attorney's office.