



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEVADA MAN CHARGED WITH COCAINE POSSESSION

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Nevada man was charged in federal court today for possessing more than five kilograms of cocaine.

Ramiro R. Urbina, 43, of North Las Vegas, Nevada, is charged with possession with intent to distribute in excess of five kilograms of cocaine, according to the criminal complaint filed this afternoon in U.S. District Court in Springfield.

Graves noted that the charge resulted from a highway interdiction by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. According to an affidavit filed in support of today's criminal complaint, **Urbina** was driving a Ford F-250 pickup truck that was pulling a horse trailer, when he was stopped on Interstate 44 in Lawrence County at approximately 10 a.m. on April 1, 2003, by a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper due to a lane violation.

In a search of the vehicle, according to the affidavit, the trooper discovered six bundles of cocaine, weighing about six kilograms, in a hidden compartment of an external fuel tank.

Urbina agreed to cooperate with law enforcement officials in a controlled delivery of the drug to the buyer in Dayton, Ohio, the affidavit says. But en route to Dayton, the complaint alleges that **Urbina** attempted to flee law enforcement agents by stealing a car and leading officers on a high-speed pursuit on Interstate 70 in Indianapolis, Indiana. According to the affidavit, **Urbina** drove at speeds exceeding 106 miles per hour, at times traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes of the highway, until he stopped and was arrested.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Randall D. Eggert. The case was investigated by the DEA Drug Task Force, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Greene County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow