



MAT HECK, JR.
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Montgomery County, Ohio
(937) 225-5757
info@mcpo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mexican Citizen Convicted and Sentenced
for Methamphetamine Possession**

State v. Eleazar Flores-Lopez, 2014-CR-3487/1

DAYTON, OH (04/12/2016) – Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that 37-year-old **Eleazar Flores-Lopez**, of Mexico, was sentenced yesterday to the mandatory maximum of 11 years in prison for possession of over eight pounds of methamphetamines.

The defendant and his brother, Joel Flores-Lopez, were stopped for a traffic violation on I-75 near Edwin C. Moses in Dayton on October 8, 2014. It was determined that the defendant was in the United States illegally. The officers' K9 alerted the officers that there were possibly illegal drugs in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle discovered over eight pounds of methamphetamines. Investigators believe the defendants were smuggling the drugs from Mexico to the Miami Valley.

The defendant was tried and convicted by a jury on one count of Aggravated Possession of Drugs. The count includes a Major Drug Offender specification, which means the defendant's prison sentence is a mandatory 11 years.

The co-defendant, Joel Flores-Lopez, was previously convicted and sentenced to 11 years in prison on December 22, 2015.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "These defendants have been deported back to Mexico a number of times previously by the federal government. We cannot and will not tolerate anyone bringing massive amounts of drugs into our community. Drugs not only destroy lives but cause additional crime in our neighborhoods. This is the first step in combating the drug/heroin problem."

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