

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Theodore F. L. Housel
Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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2 Page(s)

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MAYS LANDING – Authorities arrested a Pleasantville man for possession of nearly ½ a kilo or over a pound of cocaine, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced Friday.

Luis C. Rodriguez, 35, of 310 Whalers Drive in The Landings apartment complex, was arrested without incident Wednesday afternoon and charged with possession of controlled dangerous substances, possession with intent to distribute, possession within 1000 feet of a school zone and conspiracy to distribute controlled dangerous substances.

Rodriguez was under investigation for several months leading up to his arrest. Earlier this week, the U.S. Postal Service, intercepted a package from Puerto Rico that was to be delivered to the Rodriguez home. The package contained the cocaine.

Authorities then executed a search warrant of Rodriguez' residence. Law enforcement officials seized cocaine and marijuana from the home as well as over \$9,000 in cash. An additional \$1,840 was also secured from the man's vehicle.

Rodriguez was arrested without incident and transported to the Atlantic County Justice Facility. Superior Court Judge Albert Garofolo set bail at \$250,000 full cash.

The Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office Gangs Guns and Narcotics Unit, the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, the Pleasantville Police Department, Drug Enforcement Agency and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service conducted the investigation.

*****These charges are merely an accusation and not proof of guilt. In all criminal cases, a charged defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS). Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.**