

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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ADDISON MAN SENT TO PRISON FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION JUAN MEXICANO ALSO SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT IN CALIFORNIA FOR COCAINE

January 28, 2019

An Addison man will go to prison for unlawfully possessing guns and ammunition he had stashed in an Elgin storage locker.

Kane County Associate Judge Kathryn D. Karayannis on Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, sentenced 33-year-old **Juan A. Mexicano** to 7 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Mexicano on Aug. 24, 2018, pleaded guilty to the offenses of:

- Unlawful use of a weapon, Class 2 felony, 7 counts
- Unlawful use of a weapon, Class 3 felony, 2counts

Kane County Assistant State's Attorney William Engerman stated in court during the plea hearing that at about 9 p.m. August 12, 2016, Elgin police officers served a search warrant at a storage facility in the 600 block of Big Timber Road, specifically for a unit being rented by Mexicano. Inside the unit, authorities found 31 weapons, including five fully automatic long guns, a grenade launcher and two live grenades, as well as thousands of rounds of live ammunition. Among the automatic rifles found were a Colt AR15, a Schmeisser rifle, and a Thompson sub-machine gun. The investigation revealed that the guns and ammunition were Mexicano's property.

The Elgin Police Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations, the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, the Kane County Sheriff's Office and the Chicago Police Department conducted the joint investigation.

In addition, the Will County Sheriff's Office, the DuPage County Sheriff's Office, the New Lenox Police Department, Addison Police Department, Olympia Fields Police Department, Hoffman Estates Police Department and ICE – Enforcement Removal Operations assisted in the investigation.

The sentence, which is the maximum allowed under Illinois law, is being served in conjunction with a sentence delivered to Mexicano in federal court in California on a conviction for cocaine distribution conspiracy charges.

According to Illinois law, Mexicano is eligible for day-for-day sentencing. He receives credit for time served in the Kane County jail.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said:

"Mr. Mexicano is a gun and drug dealer whose capture and prosecution is the result of cooperation across multiple state and federal agencies and the Elgin Police Department. Removing these fully automatic weapons, dozens of other firearms, explosive devices and thousands of rounds of ammunition is a small but important victory against those who engage in violent crime and participate in the deadly and illegal drug trafficking trade. My thanks to all of these agencies for their work in taking these weapons off the streets. Without their diligent work the guns might have been used to commit acts of violence and to help bring illegal drugs into the United States."

Special Agent in Charge of HSI Chicago James M. Gibbons said:

"This joint investigation demonstrates that law enforcement can combat emerging and existing transnational criminal organizations by employing the full range of federal, state and local law enforcement authorities and resources in the fight to identify, investigate, disrupt and dismantle these organizations at every level of operation."

Juan A. Mexicano: Age 33 (d.o.b. 4-22-1985), of the 19W block of Army Trail Road, Addison, Illinois. Case No. 16CF1405.