## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



SHANNON WALLACE District Attorney Cherokee County Justice Center 90 North Street, Suite 390 Canton, GA 30114

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Cyndi Crossland

Public Information Officer cbcrossland@cherokeega.com

770-479-1488

## Drug traffickers sentenced to prison State vs. Eloisa Chavez-Lopez and Erick Alexander Pauu-Sirin

**December 28, 2022** – Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that Eloisa Chavez-Lopez, 40, pled guilty and was sentenced last month to the state penitentiary for trafficking methamphetamine. Her codefendant, Erick Alexander Pauu-Sirin, 27, pled guilty earlier in the year and was also sentenced to prison for trafficking.

Charges stem from a Cherokee Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad (CMANS) investigation that began in February 2021 based on tips that Chavez-Lopez was distributing methamphetamine. On multiple occasions, CMANS observed as Chavez-Lopez traveled throughout Cherokee County to conduct hand-to-hand drug transactions.

Following these transactions, CMANS executed simultaneous search warrants on May 14, 2021, for two addresses where Chavez-Lopez and Pauu-Sirin resided.

At the first home, agents found over 50 grams of methamphetamine and over 50 grams of cocaine, packaged in more than 100 individual bags. In addition to the illegal drugs, the agents found \$5,876 in cash. At the second address, agents located methamphetamine weighing more than a kilogram.

The co-defendants were arrested and charged with trafficking methamphetamine.

"Our CMANS agents were able to take a tip from a concerned citizen and begin to connect Ms. Chavez-Lopez and Mr. Pauu-Sirin to a network of high-level poly-drug traffickers," said Damion Overstreet, who prosecuted the case on behalf of the state. "Good old-fashioned police work and some patience by our CMANS agents laid out an organized scheme to flood our county with drugs."

Chavez-Lopez entered a negotiated plea on November 15, 2022, and was sentenced to 30 years, with the first 25 years to serve in the state penitentiary. Pauu-Sirin entered a negotiated plea on July 28, 2022, and was sentenced to 30 years with the first 15 years to serve in the state penitentiary.

"The anonymous tips received by CMANS laid the groundwork for this undercover investigation that ultimately brought about the arrest and prosecution of two co-defendants who were spreading dangerous drugs in our community," said District Attorney Shannon Wallace. "When members of the public, law enforcement, and prosecution work together, we can identify, investigate, and prosecute these crimes and ensure that drug traffickers receive the justice they deserve."

This case was investigated by the Cherokee Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad (CMANS) and the Cherokee Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Damion Overstreet, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

###