



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

CANADA CUSTOMS OFFICER CONVICTED OF DRUG SMUGGLING

ROSEAU, Minn.—A former Canada customs officer arrested by special agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) May 13 as he attempted to smuggle marijuana into the United States pleaded guilty Monday to first-degree conspiracy to smuggle drugs.

Gary Graboski, 35, who at the time of his arrest was an officer with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), was arrested just south of the Pinecreek, Minn. port of entry.

ICE agents determined Graboski had intended to deliver marijuana hidden in his pickup truck to a second man in Warroad, Minn. Loran Stewart, 57, also a Canadian citizen, was the intended recipient. Stewart and Graboski were both arrested in this incident. Both Graboski's pickup and Stewart's sport utility vehicle were seized.

Graboski was convicted for two separate smuggling incidents. The first incident occurred in March when he smuggled marijuana into Roseau, Minn. The second was the attempt to deliver drugs to Stewart. The combined weight of the marijuana from both incidents was about 100 pounds.

Stewart was found guilty Sept. 3 of second-degree conspiracy to commit a controlled substance crime and sentenced to 26 months imprisonment. A sentencing date for Graboski has not been set.

Roseau County Attorney Michelle Moren of the State Attorney's office in Roseau prosecuted Graboski and Stewart.

The convictions are the result of a multi-agency, international investigation first launched by Canadian law enforcement months ago in Manitoba. In the United States, ICE officials were assisted by the Roseau County Sheriff's Department, the Minnesota State Patrol, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Border Patrol.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).