

Two groups indicted on drug charges by federal grand jury

Two separate groups of individuals were indicted on drug related matters by a federal Grand Jury sitting in Anchorage, U.S. Attorney Michael R. Spaan said recently.

Fernando Rios and Juan Pacheco Dominquez were indicted by a federal grand jury in the District of Alaska for conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance.

The alleged conspiracy involved the distribution of three kilograms of cocaine — 6.6 pounds — valued at \$400,000.

If convicted, the defendants face sentences of up to 40 years incarceration, with a minimum term of five years and/or up to \$2 million in fines.

Five other individuals were indicted on drug related charges, Spaan said.

Michael Barnes, Thomas Clemons, Thomas Jones, Luke Stanton and Rodney McCombs were charged with

conspiracy to distribute a pound of cocaine with a value of \$60,000. In addition, McCombs is also charged with possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

If convicted, the five defendants face a maximum penalty of 20 years incarceration and/or a fine of up to \$250,000 for the conspiracy charge.

All seven are currently being held without bail at the Cook Inlet Pretrial Facility.

Since fiscal year 1987, which began in October 1986, the U.S. Attorney's Office has indicted 19 people on drug related charges. The indictments are a result of the continuing cooperation of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, the FBI and the Alaska State Troopers, which have been actively seeking to halt the drug trade at its sources.