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## Press Release

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**For Immediate Release**

**FBI New York**

**Territory/Jurisdiction**

October 19, 2010

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### **New York FBI Agents and Task Force Officers are Among a Team of Individuals to Receive the Federal Drug Agents Foundation's True American Hero Award**

Yesterday, FBI special agents jointly received the True American Hero Award at the ninth annual Federal Drug Agents Foundation (FDAF) Award Ceremony in New York.

**Press Room**

The team was recognized for their outstanding service and dedication to Operations Blood Drive and Black Crown. On May 13, 2010, the FBI's Hudson Valley Safe Streets Task Force (HVSSTF) conducted a major operation in Newburgh, New York. Seventy-eight gang members were indicted in the Southern District of New York on various federal charges. Starting in the early morning hours, over 500 law enforcement personnel carried out a major arrest operation, which went smoothly and was a great success.

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Left to right: Detective Charlie Nyland (City of Middletown PD), Sergeant Paul Arteta (Orange County Sheriff's Office), Investigator Michael Panico (NYSP; holding plaque), Special Agent Jose Flores, Special Agent Neil Donovan, Special Agent in Charge Diego Rodriguez, ADIC Janice K. Fedarcyk, Supervisory Special Agent James Gagliano, Assistant Special Agent in Charge Belle Chen, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Maimin (USAO-SDNY)  
Photo Credit: FBI

The Assistant Director in Charge (ADIC) of the FBI's New York Field Office Janice K. Fedarcyk said, "We are here to honor those agents and task force personnel who worked diligently on this investigation and to recognize the amazing work that is accomplished by working hand in hand with our fellow law enforcement partners."

The Federal Drug Agents Foundation was formed in 1994 by a group of professionals to provide support to the members and families of many law enforcement agencies and is dedicated to providing

recognition and support to our nation's federal agents and task force members.

The Hudson Valley Safe Streets Task Force is comprised of agents and law enforcement officers from DOJ (SDNY); City of Newburgh PD; New York State Police; Orange County D.A.'S Office; Orange County Sheriff's Office; ATF; ICE; USMS; NYS Dept. Of Corrections; City of Middletown PD; Town of Newburgh PD; Town of New Windsor PD; Village of Monticello PD; City of Poughkeepsie PD; Dutchess County Sheriff's Office; Beacon Police Department; Sullivan County Sheriff's Office; and NYS Department of Parole.

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