

Bristol County District Attorney's Office
C. Samuel Sutter
District Attorney

Press Release
June 13, 2008

District Attorney Sam Sutter today announced the completion of a year-long undercover drug trafficking investigation that led to the arrest of two suspects, the seizure of two kilograms (2,000 grams) of cocaine and the seizure of two Dodge pickup trucks.

Carlos Evangelista, 33, of 39 Prospect St. in Bristol, R.I. and Peter Ferland, 33, of 112 Byron St., Fall River, were both arrested by the State Police Unit assigned to this office Thursday around 4 p.m. at the Harbour Mall parking lot in Fall River. Both men are charged with trafficking more than 200 grams of cocaine and conspiracy to violate the controlled substance act. They are both being held without bail until arraignment Monday in Fall River District Court.

The undercover investigation was coordinated by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Butts. The investigation was led by Trooper Melvin Rodriguez of the State Police Unit assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office and Detective Glenn Souza of the Fairhaven Police Department. Other agencies assisting in the investigation and the arrest include Somerset Police, Dartmouth Police, the Rhode Island State Police, The Drug Enforcement Agency and the New England State Police Information Network. District Attorney Sutter hailed Thursday's arrests as more evidence that his office is targeting major offenders before they leave a clear path of evidence and that a renewed spirit of cooperation between local, state and federal authorities is improving public safety in Bristol County.

"I said in my swearing in speech 18 months ago that we would aggressively pursue the worst criminals in the county, the most violent offenders, the gang leaders and the major drug dealers. This is another example of that," District Attorney Sutter said. "I said it 18 months ago and I will say it again: My advice to these individuals is to either stop committing crimes or leave Bristol County, because we are going to be relentless in going after you.

"I would also like to thank all the agencies for working collaboratively on this important investigation."

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