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TWO CHARGED IN MURDER FOR HIRE PLOT

Hammond, Indiana—The United States Attorney's Office announced that two DuPage County, Illinois, men were arrested last week after being charged by complaint in a Murder for Hire plot targeting an Assistant United States Attorney and a Drug Enforcement Administration agent assigned to Chicago.

Frank Caira, 39, of Downers Grove, Illinois, and Jack Mann, 41, of Naperville, Illinois, were charged with solicitation to commit a crime of violence, specifically attempting assault or intimidation of a federal officer, and attempting to kill a law enforcement official of the United States.

Both men appeared before Magistrate Judge Nan R. Nolan in Chicago Saturday afternoon, January 16, 2010. Mann has subsequently appeared in court today and remains detained. Caira is scheduled to appear for a detention hearing before Magistrate Judge Nolan on Thursday, January 21, 2010.

This case was investigated jointly by the Chicago Federal Bureau of Investigation Violent Crimes Task Force and the United States Marshal's Service Northern Illinois Threat Assessment Task Force.

Because the U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Illinois has been recused from further involvement in this matter, these charges will be prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office of the Northern District of Indiana.

The United States Attorney's Office emphasized that an complaint is merely an allegation and that all persons charged are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.