



Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York

Bridget G. Brennan, Special Narcotics Prosecutor

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Three Charged in Firearm and Narcotic Sales: 27 Guns, Cocaine

A long-term investigation disrupted a gun and narcotic trafficking network in the Bronx, and resulted in the seizure of 27 guns, as well as more than 400 grams of cocaine (nearly a pound). Two brothers and a third individual are charged in an indictment filed by the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor (SNP).

Bridget G. Brennan, New York City's Special Narcotics Prosecutor, and New York City Police Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell announced the arrests following the arraignments and unsealing of the indictment.

ABED AWAWDEH and SAM ALROWHANI were arrested on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, following an undercover investigation by the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) Narcotics Borough Bronx. AHMED AWAWDEH was arrested yesterday. All three were arraigned in Manhattan Supreme Court. The indictment contains charges of Conspiracy in the Fourth Degree, Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First, Second and Third Degrees, Criminal Sale of a Firearm in the First Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second and Third Degrees, and Criminal Possession of a Firearm.

At the outset of the investigation, ABED AWAWDEH allegedly sold cocaine to an undercover officer on 11 occasions between October 14, 2022 and February 11, 2023. On the first date, a small quantity of oxycodone was also sold. During a meeting on October 26, 2022, ABED AWAWDEH allegedly began selling loaded guns, in addition to the cocaine. By January 6, 2023, the undercover officer had purchased a total of five firearms, including four pistols and one revolver, from ABED AWAWDEH. The serial number had been defaced on one of the pistols. Sales of a total of 407 grams of cocaine and the guns totaled approximately \$19,500. The majority of these sales took place in the Allerton neighborhood of the Bronx.

AHMED AWAWDEH, brother to ABED AWAWDEH, was present at one of the gun sales with ABED AWAWDEH, and allegedly offered to sell guns to the undercover. The indictment charges AHMED AWAWDEH with the sale of 17 guns, including 16 pistols and one assault weapon, to the undercover, for a total of approximately \$18,100. Sales took place at AHMED AWAWDEH's residence, located at 1856 Matthews Avenue, in Morris Park in the Bronx, during four meetings between November 29, 2022 and December 22, 2022.

As stated in court during bail arguments yesterday, the ballistics for one of the firearms AHMED AWAWDEH sold matched ballistics recovered from the scene of a homicide shooting in the Bronx in the month preceding the gun sale. He is not a suspect in the homicide.

On November 17, 2022, AHMED AWAWDEH allegedly provided the undercover with a phone number for SAM ALROWHANI as a potential source for guns. Between November 17, 2022 and March 8, 2023, ALROWHANI allegedly sold a total of five loaded guns, including one “ghost” gun, to the undercover for a total of approximately \$5,400. The sales occurred in the vicinity of 663 Crescent Avenue in Little Italy in the Bronx.

Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan thanked Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark, and commended SNP’s Special Investigations Bureau and the NYPD’s Narcotics Borough Bronx.

“This investigation demonstrates the close link between illegal drugs and guns, both of which are fueling death and violence in the Bronx and throughout the city. We will continue to focus on those who sell deadly weapons and lethal narcotics that are endangering the safety of our communities,” said Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan.

“Today’s indictment is the result of the exceptional effort and steadfast dedication of everyone involved in this case,” said NYPD Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell. “The purpose of this long-term investigation was clear: make our city safer by taking illegal guns and illicit drugs off our streets. This critical work depends on strong collaboration between all of our law enforcement partners, so to that end I want to thank the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York, the Bronx County DA’s Office, and our NYPD investigators for their unwavering commitment to public safety.”

Defendants	Charges
Abed Awawdeh Bronx, NY Age: 28	Conspiracy 4 th – 1 ct CSCS 1 st – 4 cts CSCS 2 nd – 4 cts Criminal Sale of a Firearm 1 st – 1 ct CSCS 3 rd – 3 cts CPCS 3 rd – 11 cts CPW 2 nd – 5 cts CPW 3 rd – 1 ct
Ahmed Awawdeh Bronx, NY Age: 22	Conspiracy 4 th – 1 ct Criminal Sale of a Firearm 1 st – 1 ct CPW 2 nd – 1 ct CPW 3 rd – 4 cts Criminal Possession of a Firearm – 1 ct
Sam Alrowhani Bronx, NY Age: 21	Conspiracy 4 th – 1 ct Criminal Sale of a Firearm 1 st – 1 ct CPW 2 nd – 5 cts

The charges and allegations are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.