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KETAMINE TRAFFICKING OPERATION DISMANTLED IN FLUSHING

*Four Defendants Indicted on Charges of Selling and Possessing Ketamine and Other Narcotics
One Defendant Charged with Operating as Major Trafficker
Over 32 Kilograms of Ketamine Seized During the 16-Month-Long Operation*

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today the indictment of four individuals charged with conspiracy, drug trafficking and other crimes following a long-term investigation into a narcotics organization based in Flushing. The investigation, dubbed “Operation Frostbite,” included a series of undercover drug buys and the use of electronic surveillance.

District Attorney Katz said: “Those who choose to peddle poison in Queens are on notice: my office will meticulously dismantle drug rings and take drugs off the streets. The four defendants stand accused of possessing and selling a large quantity of dangerous narcotics as part of an illegal operation spanning two boroughs. I thank members of my Major Economic Crimes Bureau and the NYPD for their work in bringing these individuals to justice. I also extend my deepest gratitude to the undercover officers who risked their safety to gather critical evidence in this case.”

Xing Li, 40, of 39th Street in Flushing; Kaiyu Huang, 36, of Henry Street in Manhattan; Quan Ni, 24, address unknown; and Raymond Nam, 36, of Byrd Street in Flushing were apprehended yesterday following the execution of court-authorized search warrants and arraigned on a 19-count indictment charging them with conspiracy, criminal sale of a controlled substance, criminal possession of a controlled substance and criminal possession of cannabis. Xing Li was indicted and arraigned on an additional charge of operating as a major trafficker.

Queens Supreme Court Justice John Zoll ordered the defendants to return to court on February 7. If convicted of the top count, defendant Xing Li faces a potential maximum prison term of 15 years to life in prison. The additional defendants face a potential maximum prison term of three to 10 years in prison.

DA Katz said that according to the indictment and investigation, the crew, under the leadership of Xing Li, sold and stored ketamine, cannabis and MDMA – also known as ecstasy – at various locations throughout Queens and Manhattan. The primary activity took place in the vicinity of Raymond Nam’s residence in Flushing and Kaiyu Huang’s residence in Manhattan.

A total of five buys of ketamine and MDMA took place among undercover police officers and the defendants between June 2023 and April 2024, resulting in over \$26,000 worth of seized drugs.

On July 17, 2024, and October 23, 2024, search warrants were executed at two separate locations which resulted in the seizure of more than 30 kilograms of ketamine, 600 grams of MDMA and over 100 pounds of cannabis.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Jose Ortiz of the New York Police Department’s Criminal Enterprise Investigations Section, Business Integrity Commission under the supervision of Sergeant Joseph Peragallo, Lieutenant David Rosiak, Deputy Inspector George Pietropinto, and under the overall supervision of Assistant Chief of Detectives Jason Savino.

Senior Assistant District Attorney Leann Staines of the District Attorney’s Major Economic Crimes Bureau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Mary Lowenburg, Bureau Chief, Catherine C. Kane, Senior Deputy Bureau Chief, Jonathan Scharf, Deputy Bureau Chief, Ajay Chheda, Assistant Deputy Bureau Chief, and Kieran Linehan, Section Chief of the Major Narcotics Unit, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Gerard Brave.

Criminal complaints and indictments are accusations. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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