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SAUK COUNTY DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON FOR ONE OF LARGEST LOCAL COCAINE SEIZURES IN DECADES

BARABOO, WI – Sauk County District Attorney Michael X. Albrecht announced the sentencing of **Jaoshua Alberto Vargas-Sanchez, 29**, of Reedsburg, to a 25-year bifurcated sentence in the Wisconsin State Prison System for his role in a high-volume drug conspiracy trafficking cocaine from Puerto Rico into Sauk County.

The sentencing occurred on October 22, 2025, before Circuit Court Judge Michael Screnock. Judge Screnock adopted the District Attorney's recommendation, sentencing Vargas-Sanchez to a 25-year prison sentence consisting of **15 years of initial confinement** followed by **10 years of extended supervision** in Sauk County case 24CF781.

Vargas-Sanchez pled guilty in August to Conspiracy to Commit Possession With Intent to Deliver Cocaine (> 40g), Second or Subsequent Offense, a Class C felony and the highest level drug trafficking crime in Wisconsin. Evidence showed Vargas-Sanchez was not a user of cocaine and imported these dangerous drugs to the area purely to supplement his own income.

The investigation, led by the Sauk County Drug Task Force and U.S. Postal Inspectors resulted in the interception of a package containing over **one kilogram of cocaine**, representing an estimated **\$100,000 in street value**. This seizure represents one of the largest quantities of cocaine intercepted in Sauk County in the past 25 years.

District Attorney Michael X. Albrecht, who prosecuted the case and argued sentencing, stated: "This 25-year sentence is a definitive shot across the bow to every drug trafficker attempting to profit on our community. The successful prosecution of this non-user, high-volume drug dealer is a significant victory for our local justice system. This case represents one of the highest rungs on the international drug trafficking ladder that our local law enforcement can reach, and it successfully disrupts a major cocaine pipeline into Sauk County."

In delivering the sentence, Judge Michael Screnock issued a strong warning to traffickers: "I believe it is incumbent on the judges here in Sauk County to make sure the entire world, or at least the entire state, knows that you engage in the drug trade in Sauk County at your peril. We cannot do anything to change people's behavior in our adjacent counties or further away points in Wisconsin, but there's no reason why anyone who thinks about engaging in the sale of drugs for profit should think they have any chance of having a safe harbor in Sauk County."

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