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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ruak Convicted for Drugs

June 18, 2013- Hagatna, Guam- After a week of trial and 2 hours of jury deliberation, Paul Eliam Ruak was convicted yesterday of Manufacturing a Schedule I Controlled Substance as a first degree felony and Possession of More Than One Ounce of Marijuana as a petty misdemeanor.

In August of last year, the Guam Police Department (GPD) arrived at Ruak's residence after a phone call was placed to report a suspected burglary. As GPD searched the premises of the home, they located three marijuana plants growing in plastic pots that were several feet tall. In dry weight, the marijuana weighed about 720 grams or 1pound 6 ounces. Ruak admitted that the plants were his and was subsequently arrested.

"The Office of the Attorney General remains committed to prosecuting those who produce and traffic controlled substances, especially where the suspects involved in these crimes have previous or on-going criminal cases," said Assistant Attorney General James Collins.

"This conviction would not have been possible without the commendable work of the Officers of the Guam Police Department's Southern Precinct, who conducted the investigation in the case, and gave testimony at trial," he continued.

"I would like to thank my staff and GPD for their hard work. I'd like to also thank the jury for the attention they paid to this case," said Attorney General Leonardo M. Rapadas.

Ruak faces anywhere between ten and twenty years in jail and will be sentenced on August 7, 2013.

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