



NEWS RELEASE

GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

For Immediate Release

Approved By: JDE

Friday, January 20, 2012

Release No. 12-003

Contact: Blake Heller
Deputy District Attorney

Telephone: (805) 654-3072
(805) 947-7962

VENTURA, California - District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that David Walter Caramanis (DOB: 09/01/71), of Westlake Village, was sentenced to 12 years eight months in the Ventura County jail for the manufacture and possession of Gamma-Hydroxybutyric Acid (commonly known as GHB). Caramanis was sentenced to a base term of five years eight months, with an additional six years added to his sentence because of two prior convictions for manufacturing GHB and selling steroids. Caramanis received an additional one year enhancement for having served a prior term in federal prison. In 2004, Caramanis was convicted in federal court for conspiracy to manufacture GHB. He also suffered a conviction in 1992 for the sale of anabolic steroids in Ventura County Superior Court.

In the current case, Caramanis imported controlled substances from China that were used to manufacture GHB. He produced and sold the GHB both within the county and to individuals in other states using various shipping and receiving agencies where he used a false identification. During a search of his residence in April 2011, Sheriff's detectives located the various chemicals that Caramanis used to make GHB as well \$8,700 in cash. Under the new realignment law, Caramanis will serve the entirety of his sentence in the Ventura County jail rather than state prison.

###