



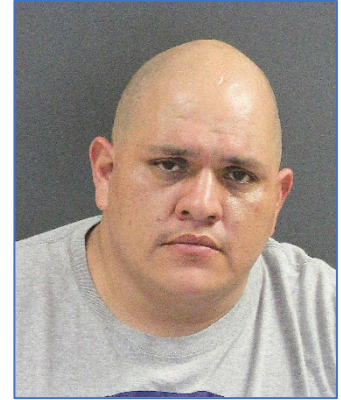
March 8, 2023
For immediate release

Found with nearly a pound of meth, local man charged with 2 felonies

A local man with four pending felony cases was charged Wednesday with two additional felonies after Cannon River Drug and Violent Offender Task Force agents discovered nearly a pound of methamphetamine in his Northfield hotel room.

Apolar Hernandez-Silva, 39, was charged Wednesday with first-degree meth possession and first-degree sale of meth after agents executed a search warrant Monday on the hotel room. Because Hernandez-Silva is accused of possession and sale of more than 100 grams of meth, the charges are enhanced which brings the potential for a longer sentence should he be convicted.

Inside the room, agents reported finding a small amount of a crystal-like substance that tested positive for meth and various types of drug paraphernalia, including an electronic scale, and glass pipes and tubing, commonly used to smoke meth. Also recovered were two plastic bags with a substance that tested positive for meth. All totaled, the meth weighed .957 pounds (434.52 grams).



Hernandez-Silva

Hernandez-Silva is also facing charges of receiving stolen property in an August 2022 case in which he's alleged to have been in possession of a stolen 18-foot aluminum trailer and commercial lawn mower. In January, he was charged with felony domestic assault for reportedly trying to run over a woman with his truck. That same month he was charged with violating a no contact order and two counts of sexual assaulting a child under 14.

Judge John T. Cajacob set bail in the drug case Wednesday at \$500,000 with no conditions based on what County Attorney Brian Mortenson argued was Hernandez-Silva's record of non-compliance. Cajacob agreed with Mortenson and set no conditional bail.

"The recent allegations against Mr. Hernandez-Silva are very serious and show that he's an extreme threat to public safety," said Mortenson. "I appreciate the judge following the state's recommendation for bail in the case."

Hernandez-Silva's next appearance is set for 9 a.m. March 22.

Contact:

Brian Mortenson, Rice County Attorney
brian.mortenson@ricecountymn.com
507-332-6103

Suzy Rook, Communications Coordinator
suzy.rook@ricecountymn.gov
507-384-6509