

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached an abstract for a paper I would like to present at the May 2013 Conference of the International Society of the Study of Drug Policy in Bogota Colombia.

The paper is entitled: Investigating and Prosecuting Higher Level Drug Traffickers: Canada's Experience with Organized Crime Legislation.

Please let me know if you require any additional information. I have included a copy of my CV for your information.

All the best.

ABSTRACT

Investigating and Prosecuting Higher Level Drug Traffickers Canada's Experience with Organized Crime Legislation

Legislation dealing with the problem and threat of organized crime has been implemented in a number of countries around the world. This paper examines the use of criminal organization legislation in various countries and highlights the advantages and disadvantages of these laws including the problems associated with prosecuting multiple offenders in time consuming mega-trials.

The paper also analyzes the experiences of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in using criminal organization legislation and conspiracy laws to investigate and prosecute criminal groups involved in higher level drug dealing (above retail level drug sales). These groups are typically cautious, insular, and make use of extensive security strategies and technology. Higher level operatives typically direct activities from above and avoid committing overt criminal acts themselves.

Data for this study were gathered from case materials and interviews with police drug squad investigators, prosecutors, and an earlier study involving interviews with 70 convicted higher level drug traffickers in Penitentiaries throughout Canada.