

Feds bust fake cop ring

by UPI

NEW YORK -- Authorities have broken up a New York gang that allegedly robbed drug couriers from Massachusetts to Florida by impersonating police. The gang is suspected of stealing more than \$20 million in drugs and \$4 million in cash over the past five years, WNBC-TV in New York reports. U.S. Attorney Benton Campbell says the ring would conduct surveillance on victims for weeks and then use fake police lights and sirens to pull over drug couriers and rob them. If drugs or cash weren't in the vehicle, the suspects would allegedly kidnap and torture the drivers to tell them where they were kept. Investigators say the suspects would use simulated drowning techniques on victims to learn the details of drug shipments and money transfers. Eight of the 15 men named in a federal indictment were ordered held without bail Tuesday following their arraignment, WNBC said. All eight pleaded innocent. Officials of the Drug Enforcement Agency say more arrests are expected in the case.

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