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# New England Compounding Center owners plead guilty to financial crimes

## *Couple not charged in deaths caused by tainted steroids*

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### CONCORD, N.H. -

A couple linked to the New England Compounding Center, which was involved in a deadly meningitis outbreak, has pleaded guilty to financial crimes.

While Doug and Carla Conigliaro are not charged in the deaths resulting from the outbreak, they did face justice Friday in a Massachusetts federal courtroom. They admitted to opening accounts and making more than 100 withdrawals to hide money.

Despite pleading guilty to financial crimes, the couple might not see any jail time.

They admitted Friday to hiding more than \$123,000 after the company declared bankruptcy and following the outbreak of fungal meningitis in 2012.

"To say that it was just the people that were running the stuff day to day is just a cop-out because you can't own a business without knowing what is going on in that business," said Jay Doyle, a victim who still suffers from health issues because of the tainted steroids.

The contaminated steroid produced at NECC killed 64 people and sickened more than 750 in 20 states. The Conigliaros are not charged in any of those cases.

Doyle wants them to be punished.

"I was in the hospital for 40 days and I wasn't expected to live," he said.

Carla Conigliaros was NECC's majority owner and Doug Conigliaros was director of an affiliated company.

The couple admitted to making withdrawals small enough to not be reported by the bank.

Attorney Peter McGrath, who represents about 30 victims, 22 of whom are from New Hampshire, believes the Conigliaros will testify against others.

"These two people today will probably help them go after the bigger targets, so it's not over yet and I have faith in the process and in these federal prosecutors in Boston," McGrath said.

The couple's attorney said they have been sorry since the beginning.

"Today's hearing in court makes very clear, as has every previous court appearance, that Carla and Doug Conigliaro had nothing to do with the day-to-day operations at the compounding center," said David Meier, the defendants' attorney.

The couple's sentencing is scheduled for November.

Those charged with the killings are expected to go on trial in January.

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