Repatriation from US of 29 antiquities illegally smuggled out of Greece



US authorities returned 29 antiquities to Greek custody during a repatriation ceremony on Tuesday at the Greek consulate in New York City.

Key pieces returned include a bronze calyx krater, dating to 350 BC, which was seized in January; a Eid Mar coin, minted in 42 BC to commemorate the assassination of Julius Caesar and a priceless Neolithic artifact.

The antiquities were smuggled from the provinces of Macedonia, Epirus, central Greece, the Cyclades, and Crete, and ended up in the United States.

All of the objects were seized pursuant to multiple criminal investigations into highprofile traffickers and smugglers, with the probe supervised by Matthew Bogdanos, the head of the Manhattan district attorney's antiquities trafficking unit.

The repatriation ceremony was attended by Greek Culture Minister Lina Mendoni and Ivan Arvelo, special agent in charge for Homeland Security Investigations in New York.











