



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7573
Cell: (602) 740-2422

FORT DEFIANCE MAN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN PRISON FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

PHOENIX Ariz. – Francis Naswood, 29, of Fort Defiance, Ariz. was sentenced on Tuesday by U.S. District Judge James A. Teilborg to 87 months in federal prison followed by placement in an inpatient mental health rehabilitation program while on three years supervised release. Naswood pleaded guilty on April 28, 2008 to assaulting Thomas Whitehead. The assault occurred on January 8, 2008 on the Navajo Indian Reservation.

The facts showed that Naswood assaulted Thomas Whitehead with a hammer after Whitehead had stopped to assist another motorist whose car became stuck during a blizzard. Whitehead gave the motorist a ride to her home, where the assault occurred. Whitehead who is in the military was on his way to a deployment to Afghanistan when he stopped to help the motorist. He was very seriously injured.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Navajo Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Gallup, New Mexico. The prosecution was handled by Roger Dokken, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08- 041- PCT-JAT
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-272(Naswood)

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