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ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

Mexican National illegally entered the United States on 5 occasions in 2008

Lafayette, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **ALVARO HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO**, age 30, was sentenced today in United States District Court for illegal re-entry of a removed alien. U.S. District Judge Rebecca F. Doherty sentenced HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO, who has been incarcerated since October 2, 2008 to time served, and placed him on supervised release for one (1) year. Additionally, HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO has voluntarily agreed to be deported from the United States. HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO will be released to the custody of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency.

HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO was indicted in November 2008 after being arrested by the Customs and Border agents from Lake Charles, and pleaded guilty to the charge on January 29, 2009.

The defendant entered the United States illegally and was removed on four previous occasions in 2008. HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO is a citizen and national of Mexico and has no immigration documents allowing him to enter or work in the United States. It is illegal to re-enter the United States after being deported or removed without the consent of the U.S. Attorney General or the Secretary of Homeland Security. HERNANDEZ-GRAMAJO did not apply for or receive consent to re-enter the United States.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. United States Sentencing Guidelines established by the United States Congress and the United States Sentencing Commission are only used as guidelines by the judge in determining the appropriate sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by Special Agent Michael Touchet of the Immigration & Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE), Lafayette Division. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel J. McCoy. # # # #