

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

***San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt***

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***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Alessandra P. Serano (619) 557-7084***

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***For Immediate Release***

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - March 23, 2009**

Fernando Mejia-Baron was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by United States District Court Judge Marilyn L. Huff to serve 70 months in custody and three years of supervised release based on Mejia-Baron's conviction for Assault on a Federal Officer, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 111(a) and (b), announced United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt.

Court records reveal that on October 7, 2008, Mejia-Baron was the driver of a silver Honda Accord that entered the Highway 8 checkpoint with three adult individuals in the trunk. In his plea, Mejia-Baron admitted that when he attempted to flee the checkpoint, he struck a United States Border Patrol agent with the vehicle. The agent sustained serious injuries to his leg. According to court documents, officers stationed at the checkpoint became suspicious of Mejia-Baron when he approached the checkpoint wearing a United States Army Battle Dress Uniform with the rank of Brigadier General because he appeared to be too young to achieve that rank.

**DEFENDANT**

**Case Number: 08CR3621-H**

FERNANDO MEJIA-BARON

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Assault on a Federal Officer, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 111(a) and (b)

**AGENCIES**

United States Border Patrol  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Federal Bureau of Investigation