



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

PRESS RELEASE

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For Information Contact Public Affairs
HARRIET BERNICK
Telephone: (602) 514-7736
Pager: (602) 356-0004

WEST VALLEY MAN SENTENCED TO 57 MONTHS PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN

PHOENIX, ARIZONA—Paul K. Charlton, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona, and Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced that on September 22, 2003, Carlos Ernesto Alcala-Salcido was sentenced to 57 months prison by United States District Judge Frederick J. Martone.

On July 1, 2003, Carlos Ernesto Alcala-Salcido pled guilty to possession of the sawed-off shotgun, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 5861(d). The investigation that led to the conviction disclosed that Alcala-Salcido, along with Alberto Torres and Francisco Martinez, were suspected of perpetrating a home invasion robbery. In a joint prosecutorial effort with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Alberto Delgado Torres was recently sentenced to sixty months in state prison for Misconduct with Weapons. The third defendant Francisco Rolando Martinez is currently pending sentencing proceedings in federal court before Judge Martone.

This prosecution is the most recent success for the District of Arizona's Project Safe Neighborhood's firearms enforcement program. The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on

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the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by United States Attorney Paul K. Charlton. Through the ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement like the one in this case, the United States Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona. The ultimate goal of Project Safe Neighborhoods is to create safer neighborhoods by reducing gun violence and sustaining the reductions. Prosecutions such as this one are clearly a strong step in that direction.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Phoenix Police Department. The prosecution was conducted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Michael Lee, of the United States Attorney's Office, District of Arizona.

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