



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BEACH ALIEN SENTENCED ON GUN CHARGE

Columbia, South Carolina---- Acting United States Attorney Kevin F. McDonald stated that Juan Francisco Luna-Ibarra, age 30, an illegal alien residing in Myrtle Beach was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment by United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten in Florence for being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm and illegally entering the United States. Luna-Ibarra also faces deportation after he serves his prison sentence.

Immigration agents were conducting an investigation at a Myrtle Beach residence last April when Luna-Ibarra drove his car into the driveway. Luna-Ibarra admitted that he lived at the residence and that he had a Beretta .22 caliber pistol in his bedroom. Luna-Ibarra also admitted that he was in the United States illegally and that he had last entered the United States in 2006.

Federal law prohibits the possession of a firearm by an illegal alien.

The case was investigated by the Myrtle Beach Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration and U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney A. Bradley Parham of the Florence office prosecuted the case as part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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