



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **INDIAN WELLS MAN FOUND GUILTY OF STABBING ON NAVAJO RESERVATION**

PHOENIX - Norman Nelson, 39, of Indian Wells, Ariz., was found guilty by a federal jury of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and Assault by Striking, Beating or Wounding. The case was tried before U.S. District Court Judge James A. Teilborg on February 26, 2008. Nelson remained in custody after the verdict was returned by the jury on February 27, 2008. Sentencing is set before Judge Teilborg on May 12, 2008.

On May 21, 2007, Nelson was drinking with the victim at a home near Indian Wells on the Navajo Reservation. At some point Nelson became angry with the victim and stabbed him three times, causing a puncture wound to the victim's neck and two cuts to the victim's chest.

A conviction for Assault with a Dangerous Weapon carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Assault by Striking, Beating or Wounding carries a maximum penalty of 6 months in federal prison, a \$5,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Teilborg will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

The investigation leading to the guilty verdict was conducted by the Navajo Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution was handled by Kimberly M. Hare, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-739-PCT-JAT  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-043(Nelson)

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