



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, May 2, 2008

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 740-2422

U.S. MARSHALS APPREHEND FUGITIVE WANTED FOR HOMICIDE BY MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

TUCSON – A resident alien of the United States wanted by Mexican authorities for homicide is being held in federal custody without bond following his arrest on April 29th by United States Marshals. The fugitive, Efren Martinez Valencia, was arrested in Tucson and is being held pending extradition to Mexico.

The Mexican government stated that, on October 25, 2004, the victim left his home in Uruapan, Michoacan and went to a nearby tomato warehouse, where he met up with Martinez Valencia and five other people who were drinking alcohol. The victim later argued with Martinez Valencia about the price of a truck belonging to Martinez Valencia and went to Martinez Valencia's house. Martinez Valencia went inside his house, came back out, asked the victim what he wanted, and then shot the victim fatally in the neck. The autopsy confirmed that the victim died from a gunshot wound.

Mexican authorities learned that Martinez Valencia had killed someone and fled to the United States. On November 24, 2004, the State of Michoacan issued a warrant for the arrest of Martinez Valencia for homicide. Homicide is an extraditable offense under Article 2, Appendix paragraph 1 of the Extradition Treaty between the United States and Mexico.

The extradition is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christina M. Cabanillas, on behalf of the Mexican government, with the assistance of the United States Marshals Service.

MAG NUMBER: 08-06077M
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-103(Martinez-Valencia)

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