



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLEGAL ALIEN & CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO JUST UNDER 4 YEARS IN PRISON

TUCSON, Ariz. - Antonio Velazquez-Tochimani, 26, a Mexican citizen, was sentenced here today to 46 months in federal prison by U.S. District Court Chief Judge John M. Roll. He was in the U.S. illegally and is an un-registered sex offender from a previous conviction for sexual assault in Illinois.

Velazquez-Tochimani was deported to Mexico on March 12, 2007, after serving a prison sentence for an Illinois conviction of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault. In that offense, the defendant and an accomplice broke into a woman's bedroom then beat and raped her at knife point. Velazquez-Tochimani was found near Sasabe, Ariz. by U.S. Border Patrol agents on November 6, 2007. Velazquez-Tochimani pleaded guilty on January 24, 2008, to Illegal Re-Entry After Deportation.

At sentencing Velazquez-Tochimani to the maximum term allowable under the plea agreement, Chief Judge Roll cited the severity of the defendant's prior sexual assault conviction, the defendant's re-entry into the U.S. just months after being deported following his release from prison and the fact that the defendant was present in the U.S. as an un-registered sex offender.

The investigation leading to the conviction was conducted by U.S. Border Patrol. The prosecution was handled by Angela Woolridge, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-2003-TUC-JMR
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-119(Velazquez-Tochimani)

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