



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEXICAN MAN SENTENCED FOR SMUGGLING ATTEMPT OF 11-YEAR-OLD BOY

TUCSON, Ariz. – Juan Antonio Aldana-Monjaras, 31, of Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico, was sentenced here today to 21 months in prison by U.S. District Judge David C. Bury for his role in a conspiracy to smuggle an 11-year-old boy into the United States. Aldana-Monjaras pleaded guilty on April 7, 2008 to Conspiracy to Transport an Illegal Alien for Profit.

On January 6, 2008, Aldana-Monjaras applied for admission into the U.S. via the pedestrian Port of Entry in Nogales, Ariz. He was accompanied by an 11-year-old boy. Aldana-Monjaras presented border crossing cards for both himself and the child and stated that he was taking the child shopping. After initial questioning, it was discovered that the border crossing card he presented for the child was fraudulent.

Aldana-Monjaras subsequently admitted that he had agreed to bring the child into the U.S. in exchange for \$200. He stated that he had been hired by a man known to him as “the Dog,” who arranged for Aldana-Monjaras to meet with a woman at a park in Mexico. Upon meeting the woman, Aldana-Monjaras was given the child and the fraudulent border crossing card. He was instructed to take the child into the U.S. and leave him in a bathroom at a park near the Port of Entry.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Nogales. The prosecution was handled by Shelley K.G. Clemens, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08-115-TUC-DCB
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-163(Aldana-Monjaras)

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