



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEXICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR ASSAULTING BORDER PATROL AGENT

TUCSON, Ariz. - Marcelino Bautista-Merino, 25, of Oaxaca, Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Raner C. Collins to 15 months in federal prison after the defendant was convicted by a federal jury at trial for the charge of Assault on a Federal Agent.

On January 23, 2008, U.S. Border Patrol agents located a group of undocumented aliens in the desert near Arivaca, Ariz. Bautista-Merino resisted apprehension as the victim, a U.S. Border Patrol agent, approached him. Bautista-Merino kicked the agent in the stomach and continued to aggressively resist arrest. The agent was eventually able to restrain Bautista-Merino and did not sustain any serious injuries as a result of the assault.

The sentencing occurred on October 3, 2008. The investigation leading to the conviction was conducted by the U.S. Border Patrol. The prosecution was handled by Angela Woolridge, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08-0199-TUC-RCC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-265(Bautista-Merino)