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NEWS RELEASE

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**RACKETEERING INDICTMENTS TARGET ARYAN BROTHERHOOD
GRAND JURY IN LAS CRUCES CHARGES 19 IN THREE SEPARATE INDICTMENTS;
CHARGES RANGE FROM FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM TO MURDER**

LAS CRUCES, N.M. -- A federal grand jury in Las Cruces, New Mexico, has indicted 19 members and associates of the Aryan Brotherhood (AB) in three indictments on federal racketeering charges that allege murders and violent acts designed to preserve and solidify the AB presence in New Mexico. As of yesterday, federal and local law enforcement officials had all of the named defendants in custody. The arrests took place in New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma. A number of the defendants were already in custody in state prisons. In addition to the recent arrests, 11 other indictments have been brought by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico that are directly related to the investigation of the AB in New Mexico.

The case against the AB is the result of a two-year, multi-jurisdictional investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Fifty federal, state and local agencies were involved in the investigation, including: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), the United States Attorney's Office, the Thirteenth Judicial District Attorney's Office, the Ninth Judicial District Attorney's Office, New Mexico State Police, the Rio Rancho Police Department, and the New Mexico Department of Corrections.

The indictments allege violations of federal law including violent crimes in aid of racketeering, i.e., murder, kidnapping, along with interstate and foreign travel in aid of a racketeering enterprise, and narcotics and firearm offenses. An indictment is merely an accusation. Every

defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Those who were already in custody will be brought to federal court in Las Cruces to face the charges. Those who have recently been arrested either have or soon will be making their first court appearances in the district in which they were taken into custody. The indictments may be viewed at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nm/pr/index.html>.

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