TWO PREVIOUSLY DEPORTED MEXICAN NATIONALS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR UNLAWFUL RE-ENTRY INTO UNITED STATES

ALBUQUERQUE – U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that, today in federal court in Albuquerque, two previously deported Mexican nationals were sentenced to prison terms for illegally re-entering the United States. Each will be deported to Mexico completing his prison sentence.

Juan Manuel Gamez-Tapia, 36, was sentenced to a 52-month term of imprisonment for his illegal re-entry conviction and an additional 8 months for violating his supervised release on a prior case, for a total of 60 months imprisonment. Gamez-Tapia, who is from Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, previously was deported to Mexico from Del Rio, Tex., on February 4, 2011, following an aggravated possession with intent to distribute marijuana. He was arrested in this case on April 14, 2011, by U.S. Border Patrol Agents in Hidalgo County, N.M., and has been in federal custody since that time. On June 14, 2011, Gamez-Tapia entered a guilty plea to an information charging him with re-entry by a removed alien. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Shammara Henderson.

Martin Mendez-Madrigal, 34, was sentenced to a 46-month term of imprisonment for his illegal re-entry conviction. Mendez-Madrigal, who is from Gueramarro, Guanajuato, Mexico, previously was deported from the United States in June 2011, following a May 2011 felony conviction for aggravated assault. He was arrested in this case on June 22, 2011, by U.S. Border Patrol agents near Columbus, N.M., and has been in federal custody since that time. On October 27, 2011, Mendez-Madrigal entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging him with re-entry of a removed alien. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lynn Wei-Yu

Wang.

The cases were investigated by the U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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