

For Immediate Release
January 18, 2012

**ROSWELL MAN SENTENCED TO 10 MONTHS ON
FEDERAL FIREARM CHARGE**

***Defendant Prohibited from Associating with Bandidos or Black Widows
Motorcycle Gangs While on Supervised Release***

LAS CRUCES – U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that earlier today **Francisco Mejia**, 41, of Roswell, N.M., was sentenced to five months in custody and five months of home confinement in federal court in Las Cruces, N.M. Mejia, who pled guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm on October 19, 2011, will serve a three-year term of supervised release after he completes his ten-month sentence. As a condition of his supervised release, Mejia cannot associate with the Bandidos, Black Widows or any other motorcycle gang.

Mejia was charged by criminal complaint on August 3, 2011. The complaint alleged that on June 11, 2011, Roswell police officers responded to a domestic disturbance call at Mejia's residence in Roswell. After Mejia told the officers that there was a firearm in a closet near the living room, officers found a 9 mm pistol in the closet. In documents filed with the court, Mejia admitted to knowingly possessing the pistol. At the time, Mejia was prohibited from possessing a firearm because he has a prior felony conviction for possession of cocaine base (crack) in the Fifth Judicial District Court (Chaves County).

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Roswell Police Department, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Nathan J. Lichvarcik and Marisa Lizarraga.

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