



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales
District of New Mexico

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACTS:

Albuquerque

Elizabeth Martinez
Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney
Public Affairs Officer
elizabeth.martinez@usdoj.gov
505.224.1469

Las Cruces

Terri Abernathy
Senior Litigation Counsel
terri.abernathy@usdoj.gov
575.522.2338 ext. 233

For Immediate Release

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ROSWELL MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CONVENIENCE STORE ROBBERY

Admits Robbing Allsup's in Roswell, N.M., on August 17, 2011

LAS CRUCES – This afternoon in federal court in Las Cruces, **Adam Cruz**, 22, of Roswell, N.M., pled guilty to conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery, and interference with interstate commerce by robbery. Cruz entered his plea without the benefit of any plea agreement.

At sentencing, Cruz faces a maximum penalty of 20 years of imprisonment on each of the offenses. Cruz has been in federal custody since his arrest on September 19, 2011. He remains detained pending his sentencing hearing, which has not yet been set.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Cruz and his co-defendant, **Jesse Anthony Leyba**, 22, also of Roswell, were charged with robbing the Allsup's Convenience Store on Second Street in Roswell, on August 17, 2011. Both were charged with conspiracy (Count 1) and interference with interstate commerce by robbery (Count 2) in a three-count indictment filed on December 20, 2011. Leyba alone also was charged with using and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence (Count 3).

According to court documents, on August 17, 2011, Cruz and Leyba entered the Allsup's Convenience Store and robbed the store of beer and money in the cash register. They also stole the sales clerk's watch and ring. During the robbery, Leyba pointed a gun at the store clerk,

training the gun's red laser sight on the clerk.

Leyba pled guilty to all three counts of the indictment on February 2, 2012. He remains in federal custody pending his sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Roswell Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Nathan J. Lichvarcik and Andrea W. Hattan.

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