



U.S. Department of Justice
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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

March 1, 2012

**CALIFORNIA MAN SENTENCED TO TEN MONTHS IN PRISON FOR
FAILING TO UPDATE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION**

ALBUQUERQUE – Today in District Court in Albuquerque, **Michael Kenrick Arnold**, a 42 year-old California resident, was sentenced to ten months of imprisonment for his failure to update his sex offender registration.

Arnold was charged by indictment on August 9, 2011, for failing to comply with the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), and has been in federal custody since that time. SORNA, also known as the Adam Walsh Protection and Safety Act, requires that a convicted sex offender register in each jurisdiction where the offender resides, where the offender is employed, and/or where the offender is a student, and that the sex offender maintain current registrations. Forster was convicted of violating 18 U.S.C. § 2250(a), which makes it a crime for a person who is required to register under the SORNA to fail to update their registration after traveling in interstate or foreign commerce.

According to court filings, Arnold pled guilty to child molestation in the State of Georgia in 1995, and first registered as a sex offender in Georgia on August 24, 1999, after completing a prison sentence. In July 2005, Arnold notified Georgia authorities that he was relocating to New Mexico. Thereafter, he reported to the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) to complete his initial registration in New Mexico, where he is required to register for a total of 20 years. In May 2011, Arnold reported to the BCSO that he was moving from Albuquerque to Mexico, where he would not be required to register as a sex offender. Subsequent investigation, however,

revealed that Arnold did not move to Mexico, but instead moved to California where he was living under an alias and had not notified the State of California of his sex offender status.

On November 14, 2011, Arnold pled guilty to the indictment charging him with failure to register.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that the case was investigated by the U.S. Marshal Service, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jacob Wishard.

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