



PRESS RELEASE

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**MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR OFFERING BRIBE TO
BORDER PATROL OFFICER**

LAS CRUCES – This morning, a federal judge in Las Cruces, N.M., sentenced **Gabriela Quintana-Hernandez**, 25, of Gomez Farias, Chihuahua, Mexico, to four months in prison for her bribery conviction.

Quintana-Hernandez has been in federal custody since her arrest on December 1, 2011. According to court filings, Quintana-Hernandez was arrested after offering a \$2,500 bribe to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer at the Columbus Port of Entry. Quintana-Hernandez pleaded guilty to bribery on January 26, 2012, and admitted telling the officer that she would pay him the money if he would help her get to Albuquerque, N.M. She offered the officer the bribe because she did not have immigration documents permitting her to enter the United States legally. The officer reported the bribe, and Quintana-Hernandez was arrested at the port.

The case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Professional Responsibility, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Internal Affairs, and the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathan J. Lichvarcik.

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