



PRESS RELEASE

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MESCALERO MAN SENTENCED TO 121 MONTHS
FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CONVICTION

LAS CRUCES – Yesterday in federal court in Las Cruces, N.M., **Allen Stafford Smith**, 53, a member of the Mescalero Apache Nation, was sentenced to a 121-month prison term for his child sexual abuse conviction. Smith will be on supervised release for ten years after he completes his prison sentence. He also will be required to register as a sex offender.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Smith was arrested on March 31, 2011 based on a criminal complaint charging him with aggravated sexual abuse of a minor. He subsequently was indicted and charged with sexual abuse of a minor who more than 12 but less than 16 years of age.

On July 27, 2011, Smith entered a guilty plea to the indictment. During his plea hearing, Smith admitted to sexually assaulting a 13-year-old child at his residence, which is located within the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation, on Feb. 13, 2011.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services, Mescalero Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron O. Jordan.

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