



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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LYBROOK, N.M., MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON
FOR FEDERAL ASSAULT CONVICTION

ALBUQUERQUE – Yesterday in federal court, Abram C. Castillo, 22, was sentenced to 30 months of imprisonment to be followed by two years of supervised release for his conviction on an assault resulting in serious bodily injury charge. Castillo, a member of the Navajo Nation who resides in Lybrook, N.M., also was ordered to pay \$128,759.16 in restitution, including \$125,431.14 to the San Juan Regional Medical Center to cover the victim's medical costs, and \$2,543.75 to cover the victim's lost wages.

Court filings reflect that Castillo assaulted another Navajo man on April 8, 2011, at his residence in Lybrook, which is located within the Navajo Indian Reservation. Castillo and his victim were both intoxicated when the two men began an argument that escalated into a physical altercation when the victim kicked Castillo in the head. Castillo responded by hitting the victim in the head with a sledgehammer and stabbing the victim with a knife. The victim sustained sinus orbital fractures, a large bruise on the back of the head, and four stabs wounds including two that punctured the lungs as a result of Castillo's assault.

Castillo was taken into tribal custody on April 8, 2011, and transferred to federal custody on May 10, 2011 based on a criminal complaint filed on April 13, 2011. Castillo was released to a half-way house under pretrial supervision on May 11, 2011. On June 8, 2011, Castillo was indicted and charged with one count of assault resulting in serious bodily injury and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon.

On December 16, 2011, Castillo entered a guilty plea to Count 1 of the indictment charging him with assault resulting in serious bodily injury. He was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service after entering his guilty plea and has remained in federal custody since that time.

Counts 2 and 3 of the indictment were dismissed after Castillo was sentenced.

The case was investigated by the Crownpoint Division of the Navajo Nation Department of Public Safety, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles L. Barth.

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