



PRESS RELEASE

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YAH-TA-HEY, N.M., MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON
FOR FEDERAL ARSON CONVICTION

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court in Albuquerque, Waylon Murphy, 23, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation who resides in Yah-ta-hey, N.M., was sentenced to a two-year term of imprisonment to be followed by three years of supervised release for his arson conviction. Murphy also was ordered to pay \$62,375 in restitution to the victim.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that, Murphy was charged with torching a neighbor's house on Sept. 4, 2011, on the Navajo Indian Reservation in McKinley County, N.M. Murphy was indicted on an arson charge on Nov. 11, 2011, and entered a guilty plea to the indictment on May 10, 2012.

In his plea agreement, Murphy admitted that he maliciously set fire to his neighbor's home on Sept. 4, 2011. Murphy, who was intoxicated, entered his neighbor's home with the intention of stealing alcohol. Murphy also admitted that, after finding no alcohol in his neighbor's home, he stole various items of the neighbor's personal property and set her home on fire.

Murphy was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service to begin serving his prison sentence at the conclusion of his sentencing hearing.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Crownpoint Division of the Navajo Nation Department of Public Safety, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jack E. Burkhead.

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