



PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Elizabeth M. Martinez
Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney
Public Affairs Officer
elizabeth.martinez@usdoj.gov
505.224.1469

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CROWNPOINT, N.M., WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY
TO FEDERAL CHILD ABUSE CHARGE

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court, Carlena Martin, 25, a member of the Navajo Nation who resides in Crownpoint, N.M., pled guilty to an indictment charging her with child abuse under a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that, during today’s plea hearing, Martin admitted abusing her four-month infant on April 23, 2012. In her plea agreement, Martin stated that on that date, she became intoxicated and repeatedly dropped the infant while carrying him outside her home, which is located on the Navajo Indian Reservation.

Under the terms of the plea agreement, Martin will be sentenced to a three-year term of probation. Martin remains on conditions of release under the supervision of pretrial services pending her sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

The case was investigated by the Gallup Office of the FBI, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark T. Baker.

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