

Gregory J. Fouratt United States Attorney District of New Mexico 201 3rd St., NW Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Norm Cairns, PA Officer

(505) 346-7274

For Immediate Release March 8, 2010

Men Charged with Second Degree Murder

ALBUQUERQUE - Tyrus Begaye, 34, and Darnell Begay, 36, both enrolled members of the Navajo Nation, appeared in federal court on March 4, 2010, and pleaded not guilty to an indictment charging them with Second Degree Murder and Aiding and Abetting. The possible penalty if convicted is life imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and five years of supervised release. The charges relate to an incident that occurred in Burnham, New Mexico, within the boundaries of the Navajo Nation Indian Reservation. Trial is pending.

The indictment is merely an accusation and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

###