



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAZATLAN MAN SENTENCED FOR TRANSPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS

PHOENIX – Victor Leon-Mena, 23, of Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico, was sentenced here to 37 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge David G. Campbell. Leon-Mena pleaded guilty on February 24, 2009 to one count of Transportation of Illegal Aliens.

On January 24, 2009, Victor Leon-Mena was driving a Chevrolet Suburban which held 14 illegal alien passengers. Pinal County Sheriff's Deputies noticed the vehicle and attempted to stop the vehicle to verify registration. However, Leon-Mena failed to stop and instead ran a stop sign and collided with another vehicle in the intersection. The driver and the passenger in the other vehicle were both injured and taken to the hospital for treatment. One of the victims suffered a broken wrist and ankle, while the other received treatment for facial injuries. Two of the passengers in the Suburban were also injured and taken to the hospital for treatment.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The prosecution was handled by Melissa Karlen, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-09-192-PHX-DGC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-182(Leon-Mena)

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