



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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Public Affairs
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INMATE PLEADS GUILTY TO ASSAULTING CORRECTIONS OFFICER

PHOENIX – Leonard Fisher, 24, of Parker, Ariz., pleaded guilty yesterday to Assault on a Federal Officer for an incident in which he punched an on-duty corrections officer in the face. The assault caused broken bones and permanent damage to the officer’s senses of smell and taste.

On February 26, 2009, a fellow inmate at the Truxton County Corrections Facility in Peach Springs, Ariz., reported to a corrections officer that Fisher had struck him. When the corrections officer approached Fisher and asked him about the assault, Fisher got in his face and asked, “What are you going to do about it?” Fisher then punched the corrections officer in the face. The officer fell to the floor and Fisher put him in a headlock, applying pressure to the officer’s throat.

Fisher ultimately released the officer from the choke hold, and in an effort to elude law enforcement, ran around the cell tying doors shut with bed sheets and spilling soap on the floors to make it difficult for officers to chase him. Officers quickly apprehended Fisher inside the corrections facility. The injured corrections officer required two surgeries to repair his injuries.

The crime of assault on a federal officer carries a maximum of eight years in federal prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Sentencing is set for January 11, 2010, in front of U.S. District Judge Frederick J. Martone.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Hualapai Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Jennifer E. Green, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-09-8071-PCT-FJM
RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-317(Fisher)

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