



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Public Affairs  
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## **NORTHERN ARIZONA MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER**

PHOENIX – Brooksby Lamar Yazzie, 27, of Rough Rock, Ariz., was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge G. Murray Snow to 31 months in prison for killing a 22-year-old member of the Navajo Nation in 2008. On August 3, 2009, Yazzie pleaded guilty in federal court to Involuntary Manslaughter.

On January 12, 2008, Yazzie was driving a vehicle on Navajo Route 59 in Rough Rock when he lost control of the vehicle. The vehicle slid sideways and hit an embankment. According to witnesses, Yazzie drove in a reckless manner and started speeding when the vehicle slid sideways and flipped onto its side. The victim, a passenger in the vehicle, died of blunt force trauma injuries at the scene. Yazzie's blood alcohol level was in excess of .20 at the time of the crash, much higher than the Arizona legal limit of .08.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Navajo Department of Public Safety, the Navajo Department of Criminal Investigations, the Chinle Police Department and the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The prosecution was handled by Christina J. Reid-Moore, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-09-8046-PCT-NVW  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-322(Yazzie)

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