



**United States Department of Justice  
United States Attorney's Office  
District of Minnesota**

**Frank J. Magill,  
United States Attorney**

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist  
(612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008

## **Red Lake man indicted for involuntary manslaughter**

A 26-year-old Red Lake man was indicted yesterday in federal court in connection with the Sept. 18 death of another Red Lake man.

Donald Joseph Sumner, Jr., was charged Nov. 18 with one count of involuntary manslaughter. Sumner's indictment alleges that on Sept. 18 he did knowingly and unlawfully kill Daniel DeFoe without malice. It also alleges that Sumner acted with gross negligence by operating a motor vehicle in a reckless manner, while under the influence of alcohol and killing a passenger.

If convicted, Sumner faces a potential maximum penalty of eight years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Red Lake Police Department and the Minnesota State Patrol. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Clifford B. Wardlaw.

-30-

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.