



U.S. Department of Justice

Kenneth J. Gonzales

United States Attorney

District of New Mexico

201 3rd Street NW

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

CONTACTS: *Norman Cairns, Assistant U.S. Attorney, PAO*
505-224-1521

PRESS RELEASE

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SEX OFFENDER INDICTED FOR FAILING TO REGISTER

On June 22, 2010, a federal grand jury in Las Cruces returned an indictment alleging that Las Cruces resident Jeffrey Cruickshank, 25, failed to register as a sex offender with the appropriate authorities when he moved to New Mexico from Illinois earlier this year. Cruickshank is charged in the indictment with violating 18 U.S.C. § 2250(a) which makes it a crime for a person who is required to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act to fail to register or update their registration after traveling in interstate commerce.

A criminal complaint was filed in United States District Court on March 9, 2010, and Cruickshank has been in custody since February 25, 2010. The maximum penalty for this offense is ten years of imprisonment and a life term of supervised release.

United States Attorney Kenneth Gonzales commended the work of the U.S.

Marshal's Service in investigating the case:

"It is important for us to know who is living in our neighborhoods near our children and family members. When someone fails to register as a sex offender or update their registration, it prevents the public from obtaining this information. The Sex Offender Registration Act ensures that individuals who are required to register as sex offenders do so, and that once registered, they update their registration as required by the law."

Assistant United States Attorney Amanda Gould is the prosecutor assigned to the case.

An indictment or criminal complaint is only an accusation. All criminal defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.