



## *U.S. Department of Justice*

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### PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**December 30, 2010**

### **ARIZONA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CURRENCY SMUGGLING CHARGES**

On December 29, 2010, **Daisy Beltran**, 19, of Tempe, Arizona, pleaded guilty to a three-count superseding indictment before United States Magistrate Judge Karen B. Molzen in the federal courthouse in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Specifically, Beltran entered guilty pleas to smuggling more than \$10,000 out of the United States; structuring a transaction to evade federal reporting requirements; and a making false statement to a federal agency or department under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. At sentencing, which has yet to be scheduled, Beltran faces up to five-years imprisonment and a maximum \$250,000 fine.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Beltran was arrested on August 25, 2010 by Customs and Border Protection officers at the Columbus Port of Entry after an officer found \$13,700 in Beltran's purse. According to the criminal complaint, before the officer found the cash, Beltran declared that she was not carrying any currency in excess of \$10,000. In her plea agreement, Beltran admitted falsely telling the inspector that she did not have more than \$10,000 to declare even though she had

\$13,700 in hundred dollar bills in her purse. Beltran also acknowledged that she had no intention of declaring the income before she left the United States.

This case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection, agencies of the United States Department of Homeland Security, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael Nammar.

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