

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2011

**KANSAS MAN SENTENCED TO 150-MONTH IMPRISONMENT FOR
FEDERAL METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court in Albuquerque, **Leonel Llamas, Sr.**, a 30-year-old resident of Emporia, Kansas, was sentenced to a 150-month term of imprisonment to be followed by five years supervised release for two federal narcotics convictions. United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that the sentence imposed on Llamas this morning concludes criminal proceedings in two methamphetamine trafficking cases against Llamas. The first case was filed in federal court in New Mexico on December 3, 2009 (the New Mexico case), and the second was filed in federal court in Kansas on August 18, 2010 and transferred to New Mexico in October 2010 (the Kansas case).

Court records reflect that Llamas was indicted in the New Mexico case on December 3, 2009 and was charged with possession with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine. A superseding indictment charging Llamas with possession with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine was filed on January 7, 2010. Llamas was arrested on January 7, 2010 and released under pretrial supervision. On February 5, 2010, while on pretrial supervision on the New Mexico case, Llamas was arrested on methamphetamine trafficking charges in the Kansas case. Llamas has been in custody since his arrest in the Kansas case.

Llamas entered a guilty plea to the superseding indictment in the New Mexico case on October 19, 2010 under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. In the plea agreement, Llamas admitted that, on October 22, 2009, he was traveling from Los Angeles to Chicago on an eastbound Amtrak train. When the train stopped in Albuquerque, Special Agents

of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) found that Llamas was transporting 218.7 grams of pure methamphetamine concealed in his luggage. Llamas admitted that the methamphetamine was his and that he intended to distribute the methamphetamine.

Also on October 19, 2010, Llamas entered a guilty plea to the indictment filed in the Kansas case under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Kansas. In that plea agreement, Llamas admitted that, on February 5, 2010, he met with a person who was cooperating with the Emporia Police Department (the cooperator) and agreed to distribute a pound of methamphetamine to the cooperator. Llamas further admitted that, later that day, he participated in the delivery of a white powder to the cooperator. Laboratory testing revealed that the white powder contained 438 grams of pure methamphetamine.

The New Mexico case was investigated by the DEA and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John C. Anderson. The Kansas case was investigated by the Emporia Police Department and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney D. Blair Watson of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Kansas while the case was pending in Kansas. Mr. Anderson assumed prosecutorial responsibility for the Kansas case after the case was transferred to New Mexico.

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