

For Immediate Release  
April 25, 2011

**LAGUNA PUEBLO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL FAILURE  
TO UPDATE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION CHARGE**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court in Albuquerque, **Jarvis Poncho**, a 30-year-old member of the Pueblo of Laguna, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with a violation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). At sentencing, Poncho faces a maximum penalty of ten years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised release. Poncho has been in federal custody since his arrest on December 28, 2010 and remains detained pending his sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that SORNA, also known as the Adam Walsh Protection and Safety Act, requires that a convicted sex offender register in each jurisdiction where the offender resides, where the offender is employed, or where the offender is a student, and that the sex offender maintain current registrations. According to the criminal complaint filed in this case, Poncho was required register as a sex offender because he was convicted of abusive sexual contact (crime on an Indian Reservation) in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico in 2009. Poncho first registered as a sex offender with the State of New Mexico in Cibola County in September 2009. As a lifetime registrant, Poncho was required to update his registration every 90-days. In his plea agreement, Poncho admitted that he failed to maintain his registration as required by SORNA.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kyle T. Nayback, and was investigated by United States Marshal's Service with assistance from the Pueblo of Laguna Police Department and the Cibola County Sheriff's Office.

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