

For Immediate Release
May 4, 2011

**ALBUQUERQUE MAN TO SERVE TWO-YEARS PROBATION
AND PAY \$10,572.80 IN RESTITUTION FOR CONSPIRING
TO STEAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROPERTY**

*Co-Defendants Previously Sentenced to 57-Month and 60-Month Prison
Terms for Burglarizing and Vandalizing USFS Vehicles.*

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning, a United States District Judge sentenced **Jorge Vidaña, Jr.**, a 21-year-old resident of Albuquerque, to a two-year term of probation for conspiring to steal federal government property. Vidaña also was ordered to pay \$10,572.80 in restitution to the United States Forest Service (USFS), the victim of Vidaña's criminal conduct.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Vidaña and his two co-defendants, Martin Efrain Delgadillo and Carlos Sanchez, were charged for burglarizing and vandalizing USFS law enforcement vehicles in Albuquerque on June 11, 2009. The three men initially were charged in a criminal complaint filed on June 16, 2009, and later were indicted in a five-count indictment on July 7, 2009. The indictment included the following offenses: Count 1, charging the three men with conspiracy to steal federal government property valued at more than \$1,000; Count 2, charging all three men with stealing federal government property valued at more than \$1,000; Count 3, charging all three men with destruction of federal government property; Count 4, charging Delgadillo as an alien in possession of a firearm; and Count 5, charging Sanchez as a felon in possession of a firearm.

According to the criminal complaint, on June 11, 2009, five USFS law enforcement vehicles were damaged and burglarized while parked overnight at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel located at 2600 Louisiana NE in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The damage to the five vehicles included broken windows, damaged door locks, and damaged gun locks and exceeded \$2,000.

USFS property stolen from the USFS vehicles included two rifles, two hand-held radios, one laptop computer, three sets of police riot gear, and ammunition, the value of which exceeded \$5,000. Also stolen were USFS K9 officer narcotics training aides, including approximately eight ounces of methamphetamine, approximately 100 grams of marijuana, and approximately ten grams of black tar heroin.

The burglary and vandalism of the USFS vehicles were investigated by USFS Special Agents and Albuquerque Police Department (APD) officers, and the crime scene was processed for forensic and physical evidence, including latent fingerprints. Also on June 11, 2009, a second crime scene was reported on Pajarito Mesa, where Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) officers discovered an unauthorized fire that destroyed USFS law enforcement property, including a laptop computer, two hand-held radios, and USFS law enforcement manuals, forms, and citation books.

On June 12, 2009, forensic investigation by the APD revealed that a fingerprint collected at the first crime scene at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel was matched positively to Delgadillo. APD then applied for and received an arrest warrant for Delgadillo from a state court judge. After he was arrested, Delgadillo admitted to his involvement in the damage and burglary to the five USFS law enforcement vehicles, and identified Vidaña, Sanchez and a male juvenile as co-conspirators. APD then arrested Vidaña and Sanchez based on state court arrest warrants and both men admitted their involvement in the burglary and vandalism of the USFS vehicles. All three men subsequently were arrested on the federal criminal complaint on June 17, 2009.

Vidaña entered a guilty plea to Count 1 of the indictment, charging him with conspiracy to steal federal government property, on November 19, 2009 under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. In his plea agreement, Vidaña admitted that he assisted in the

theft of property from the USFS vehicles by acting as a "look-out" and by loading some of the stolen property into another vehicle.

Delgadillo, 20, of Albuquerque, entered a guilty plea to Counts 2 and 4 of the indictment on November 20, 2009, and was sentenced to 57-months' imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$10,572.80 in restitution to the USFS. Sanchez, 23, of Albuquerque, entered a guilty plea to Counts 2 and 3 of the indictment on November 23, 2009, and was sentenced to 60-months' imprisonment to be followed by three-years of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$10,572.80 in restitution to the USFS. Delgadillo and Sanchez are serving their prison sentences. The three co-defendants are jointly and severally ordered to pay \$10,572,80 in restitution to the USFS.

The case was investigated by the USFS with assistance from APD and BCSO, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Roberto D. Ortega.

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