

For Immediate Release  
May 25, 2011

**ROSWELL MAN RECEIVES TWO-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR  
AIDING AND ABETTING THE MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS  
IN CONNECTION WITH FIREARM PURCHASES**

LAS CRUCES – United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that, this afternoon in federal court in Las Cruces, **Carlos Martell**, 38, of Roswell, was sentenced to two years of imprisonment for aiding and abetting the making false statements in connection with the purchase of firearms. Martell will serve three-years of supervised release after completing his prison sentence. Martell, who has been on conditions of release since his arrest on June 8, 2010, is required to voluntarily surrender to the federal correctional institution at which he will serve his sentence after the U.S. Bureau of Prisons designates the facility.

Martell was arrested on a criminal complaint filed on June 8, 2010 that charged him with aiding and abetting the making false statements to federally licensed firearms dealers in connection with the purchase of eight firearms in Roswell, New Mexico between July 11, 2009 and February 5, 2010. Martell pled guilty to an information alleging that same offense on October 25, 2010, under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. According to the information, the firearms purchased by Martell included AK-47 type assault rifles, an AR-15 style assault rifle, and semi-automatic pistols.

In his plea agreement, Martell admitted paying two individuals to purchase firearms for him so that he would not be directly linked to the firearms. Martell knew that the straw purchasers falsely stated that they were the actual purchasers of the firearms when, in fact, they were purchasing the firearms for him. Martell also admitted that he knew that some of these firearms would be sent to Mexico, and that he transferred at least two of the firearms to individuals who could not legally possess firearms or who intended to use the firearms

unlawfully.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nathan Lichvarcik.

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