

For Immediate Release  
May 26, 2011

**CARLSBAD MAN SENTENCED TO 110-MONTHS  
IN PRISON FOR FEDERAL FIREARMS CONVICTION**

***Man Fired at Police Officers Executing a Search Warrant***

LAS CRUCES – Today in federal court in Las Cruces, **Eddie Joe Reza**, a 35-year-old resident of Carlsbad, New Mexico, was sentenced to a 110-month prison term for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Reza will serve a three-year term of supervised release after he completes his prison sentence. Reza has been in federal custody since his arrest on February 23, 2010.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Reza was charged in a criminal complaint filed on November 6, 2009 with unlawfully possessing firearms based on a shooting that occurred in Carlsbad on March 22, 2009. The complaint alleged that Reza was prohibited from possessing firearms because he previously had been convicted of several felonies in the Fifth Judicial District Court for the State of New Mexico (Eddy County), including convictions for (i) receiving stolen property and tampering with evidence; (ii) possession of cocaine; and (iii) shooting at or from a motor vehicle or into an occupied dwelling. On July 21, 2010, Reza entered a guilty plea to an information charging him as a felon in possession of firearms.

According to the criminal complaint, on March 22, 2009, officers of the Carlsbad Police Department SWAT team were executing a search warrant at a residence on Concho Road in Carlsbad when Reza barricaded himself in a bedroom and fired shots at the officers. Reza surrendered several hours later and no one was injured during the shooting. Inside the residence, the officers found a Glock .357 caliber pistol, an Intratec TEC-DC9 9 mm pistol, and a Beretta .22 caliber pistol. In his plea agreement, Reza admitted that he unlawfully possessed those

firearms because he previously had been convicted of a felony offense.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Carlsbad Police Department, and New Mexico State Police, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nathan J. Lichvarcik.

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