

For Immediate Release  
June 14, 2011

**SILVER CITY MAN SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS IN PRISON  
ON FEDERAL FIREARM CONVICTION**

LAS CRUCES – Today in federal court in Las Cruces, **Daniel Molina**, 47, a resident of Silver City, New Mexico, was sentenced to 30 months in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Molina will serve a three-year term of supervised release after he completes his prison sentence. Molina has been in federal custody since June 11, 2010.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Molina was charged in a criminal complaint that was filed on June 29, 2009, with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The complaint alleged that Molina was prohibited from possessing firearms because he previously had been convicted of two felonies in the Sixth Judicial District Court for the State of New Mexico (Grant County): (1) aggravated assault on a police officer; and (2) escape from jail. On November 19, 2010, Molina entered a guilty plea to the charge.

According to the criminal complaint, on June 14, 2009, officers from New Mexico State Police and the Grant County Sheriff's Office responded to a domestic dispute in Buckhorn, New Mexico. When officers arrived, a witness reported that Molina had threatened his own thirteen-year-old child with a handgun. Molina had left the area, but officers found him at a nearby RV park. Inside Molina's trailer, officers found a Smith and Wesson 9 mm pistol, a Remington .243 caliber rifle and a Winchester .30-06 caliber rifle. In his plea agreement, Molina admitted that he possessed the three firearms.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, New Mexico State Police, and the Grant County Sheriff's Office, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacob A. Wishard.

###

11-264