



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales*  
*District of New Mexico*

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**ALBUQUERQUE MAN SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS  
FOR FEDERAL CARJACKING CONVICTION**

ALBUQUERQUE – U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that earlier today, **Matthew Morrison**, 26, of Albuquerque, was sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment to be followed by five years of supervised release for his conviction on carjacking and firearms charges. Morrison also was ordered to pay \$6,621.63 to the victim of his carjacking crime.

Morrison and a co-defendant were charged in a three-count indictment that was filed on October 14, 2010, and alleged the following offenses: (1) carjacking; (2) using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence; (3) felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. According to the indictment, on July 22, 2010, Morrison and his co-defendant took a car from a person by force, violence and intimidation, and brandished a firearm during the commission of that carjacking. On that day, Morrison was precluded from possessing firearms because he previously had been convicted of commercial burglary; receiving or transferring a stolen motor vehicle; burglary; unlawful taking of a motor vehicle and burglary; and possession of burglary tools and conspiracy to commit burglary in the Second Judicial District Court for the State of New Mexico. Morrison was arrested on October 18, 2010, and has been in federal custody since that time.

Court files reflect that, at approximately 12:40 p.m. on July 22, 2010, Morrison and his co-defendant intentionally ran their car into the victim's car in the vicinity of Central Avenue NE and Wyoming Blvd. NE in Albuquerque. The victim followed Morrison and the co-defendant to

the vicinity of Tennessee NE and Copper NE in an effort to get the license plate number so that he could call the police. There, Morrison got out of his car, pulled a loaded handgun out of his pocket, and approached the victim's car in an aggressive manner. Because he feared that Morrison was going to shoot him, the victim got out of his car and took evasive action. Morrison then entered the victim's car and drove away. Officers of the Albuquerque Police Department arrested Morrison and his co-defendant shortly thereafter.

On July 27, 2011, Morrison pled guilty to Counts 1 and 2 of the indictment charging him with carjacking and using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Count 3 of the indictment was dismissed after Morrison was sentenced.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Albuquerque Police Department, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jon K. Stanford.

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