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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**ALBUQUERQUE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK ROBBERY SPREE**

***Bank Robber Faces Mandatory Life Imprisonment Based on Prior Convictions***

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning, David Michael Bauer, 53, most recently a resident of Albuquerque, N.M., pled guilty to a six-count indictment charging him with bank robbery and firearms offenses under a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office. According to the plea agreement, Bauer faces a mandatory term of life imprisonment because the United States has filed an Information Charging Prior Convictions.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Bauer was arrested on Aug. 10, 2010, and charged with robbing three banks between July 21, 2010 and Aug. 10, 2010. Bauer has been in federal custody since that time.

On Aug. 25, 2010, Bauer was indicted and charged with: (1) the robbery of the Wells Fargo Bank at 4411 Carlisle Blvd. NE, on July 21, 2010; (2) the armed robbery of the Wells Fargo Bank at 4411 Carlisle Blvd. NE, on July 31, 2010; (3) the armed robbery of the New Mexico Educators Federal Credit Union at 2801 Juan Tabo Blvd. NE, on Aug. 10, 2010; (4) using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence, namely, the July 31, 2010 bank robbery; (5) using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence, namely, the Aug. 10, 2010 bank robbery; and (6) being a felon in possession of a firearm. Proceedings in the case were delayed by competency proceedings.

This morning, Bauer pled guilty to each of the six charges in the indictment. Under the terms of his plea agreement, Bauer is required to make full restitution to the victim banks.

In his plea agreement, Bauer verified that, before July and Aug. 2010, he previously had been convicted of the following offenses: armed robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District of the State of New Mexico; bank robbery in Oconee County, S.C.; burglary in Winter Haven, Fla.; Escape in Winter Haven, Fla.; attempted escape from a state prison in West Palm Beach, Fla.; escape in Miami, Fla.; and burglary in Daytona Beach, Fla. Under the terms of the plea agreement, the United States will recommend that the U.S. Bureau of Prisons designate the federal correctional institution in Florence, Colo., as the prison at which Bauer will serve his sentence.

The case was investigated by the FBI and the Albuquerque Police Department, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly A. Brawley.

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12-223