



PRESS RELEASE

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HABITUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER FROM ACOMA PUEBLO
SENTENCED TO THIRTY-SEVEN MONTHS IN PRISON

ALBUQUERQUE – Kirby Dana Sanchez, 38, a member and resident of Acoma Pueblo, was sentenced this morning to a 37-month term of imprisonment to be followed by three years of supervised release for his conviction for domestic assault by a habitual offender. The sentence was announced U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales and DuWayne W. Honahni, Sr., Special Agent in Charge of District IV of BIA's Office of Justice Services.

Sanchez was arrested on tribal charges on Sept. 21, 2011, by officers of the Acoma Pueblo Police Department, and detained on tribal charges until Oct. 5, 2011, when he was arrested on federal charges by special agents of the BIA. Sanchez has been in federal custody since that time.

According to court filings, on Sept. 21, 2011, Sanchez assaulted his wife who is also a member and resident of Acoma Pueblo. Sanchez's victim suffered numerous injuries that required medical attention as a result of the assault, including a laceration to the forehead which required staples to close and other bruises, bumps and cuts to her extremities and head. Sanchez pled guilty to an information charging him with domestic assault by a habitual offender on April 11, 2012.

Sanchez was prosecuted federally for the Sept. 21, 2011 assault because he had two prior domestic violence convictions in tribal court. Records reflect that Sanchez was convicted of aggravated battery against a household member on July 5, 2007 in Acoma Tribal Court. Sanchez was convicted of aggravated battery against a household member and kidnapping on Feb. 8, 2010 also in Acoma Tribal Court.

The case was investigated by BIA's Office of Justice Services, Southern Pueblos Agency, and the Acoma Pueblo Police Department, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Presiliano A. Torrez.

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