



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**John E. Murphy, Acting U.S. Attorney**

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[www.usdoj.gov/usao/txw/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/txw/index.html)

Contact: Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer  
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August 21, 2009

**EL PASO COUPLE SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR ALIEN SMUGGLING  
RESULTING IN DEATH**

**John E. Murphy, Acting United States Attorney**, announced that yesterday in El Paso, Daniel Magallanes, a Mexican national resident alien, and Eva Araceli Corral, were sentenced to 96 months and 48 months in federal prison, respectively, for their part in an alien smuggling conspiracy ring responsible for the death of an undocumented alien found in the American Canal on October 28, 2007.

In addition, United States District Judge Philip R. Martinez ordered that the defendants complete five years of supervised release after completing their prison terms.

On April 14, 2009, both defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit alien smuggling; aiding and abetting bringing in undocumented aliens resulting in death; aiding and abetting bringing in undocumented aliens for financial gain; transporting undocumented aliens for financial gain; harboring undocumented aliens for financial gain; and, encouraging and inducing undocumented aliens to illegally enter the United States.

By pleading guilty, the defendants admitted to attempting to smuggle approximately 30 undocumented aliens into the United States during a two-year-period beginning in May 2006. During the October 2007 smuggling attempt, the group of undocumented aliens—five adults and four children—agreed to pay the defendants a total of approximately \$20,000 in smuggling fees. One of those undocumented aliens, Fritman Cardenas-Reyna, drowned in the American Canal while attempting to cross into the United States from Juarez.

The case was investigated by agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement together with the Operation Against Smugglers Initiative on Safety and Security task force (OASISS) in Mexico. This case was prosecuted on behalf of the United States by Assistant United States Attorneys Kristal Wade and Kenneth Kaplan.

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