

TRIBAL JUSTICE NEWS

WEEK OF JUNE 1, 2010

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COPS Office Funds Model Community Policing Partnership between Mendocino County and Round Valley Indian Tribes (COPS)

The U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has awarded \$500,000 to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office to fund a community policing demonstration project in collaboration with the Round Valley Indian Tribes, the Round Valley Unified School District, and the U.S. Forest Service. The award will fund the hiring of two Mendocino County deputies who will reside on the Round Valley Reservation and work with the Tribes' leadership and community members on projects that address drugs, crime, and school violence. The award will fund the salaries of two residential deputies for 18 months, and provide technical assistance resources. A technical assistance provider will be assigned to the project to offer on-site training, to conduct evaluations of the project, and to document promising practices.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=237>

Counterfeit Poker Chips Land Man on House Arrest and Home Detention (U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma)

U.S. Attorney Thomas Scott Woodward announced that William Reece Lancaster was sentenced on May 27, 2010, to five years probation with the first six months on house arrest. He was also ordered to pay restitution of \$70,000 to an Oklahoma casino. Lancaster was arrested during his final theft on Oct. 8, 2009, at the Seneca Cayuga Grand Lake Casino near Grove, Okla. He admitted that he used a special process of bleaching and dyeing legitimate .25 cent poker chips to match the casino's \$500 chips. He would then introduce the counterfeit chips into play at the blackjack tables or exchange them for cash at the cashier's window. He used this method to steal approximately \$70,000 from the casino.

http://www.justice.gov/usao/okn/press/Lancaster_William_Sentence.pdf

Montana Man Detained on Domestic Violence Charges (U.S. Attorney for the District of Montana)

U.S. Attorney for the District of Montana Michael W. Cotter announced that during a federal court session in Billings, Mont., on May 27, 2010, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Carolyn S. Ostby, Roy Fighting Bear, Jr., a 41-year-old resident of Lame Deer, appeared on a charge of being a habitual domestic violence offender. He is currently detained.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/mt/pressreleases/last20.html>

Minnesota Man Sentenced for Sexually Abusing Two Children (U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota)

U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones announced on May 26, 2010, that a 51-year-old Crosby, Minn.,

man was sentenced in federal court for sexually abusing his two great nieces. U.S. District Court Judge Donovan W. Frank sentenced Fabian Fransisco Spears to 204 months in prison on two counts of abusive sexual contact. Spears was indicted on Sept. 23, 2009, and pleaded guilty to the charges on March 9, 2010. In his plea agreement, Spears admitted that from April 2006 through October 2006, while visiting family on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, he engaged in sexual contact with two great nieces, both of whom were under the age of 12 at the time. Spears further admitted that during that time period, he had abusive sexual contact with the girls on more than one occasion.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/mn/press.html>

Three Members of Drug Trafficking Ring on Red Lake Indian Reservation Sentenced (U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota)

U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones announced on May 26, 2010, that three members of a drug-trafficking ring responsible for selling cocaine and crack cocaine on the Red Lake Indian Reservation between 2007 and 2009 were sentenced in federal court in for their roles in that operation. U.S. District Court Judge Donovan W. Frank sentenced Vanessa Marie Sagataw to 30 months in federal prison on one count of using a telephone while participating in a conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. Susan Alisha Neadeau was ordered to serve 18 months in prison on one count of conspiracy. Fawn Monike Neadeau was sentenced to time served on one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/mn/press.html>

Red Lake Man Sentenced for Involuntary Manslaughter (U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota)

U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones announced on May 26, 2010, that a 27-year-old Red Lake man was sentenced in federal court for killing a passenger in the vehicle he was driving while under the influence of alcohol. U.S. District Court Judge Donovan W. Frank sentenced Donald Joseph Sumner, Jr., to 42 months in prison on one count of involuntary manslaughter in connection with the incident, which occurred on Sept. 18, 2008.

Sumner was indicted on Nov. 18, 2008, and pleaded guilty to the crime on Dec. 15, 2009. In his plea agreement, Sumner admitted killing Daniel DeFoe, without malice, while recklessly driving on the Red Lake Indian Reservation.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/mn/press.html>

Arizona Man Sentenced to 25 Years for Second Degree Murder (U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona)

Lee White, 54, of Window Rock, Ariz., a member of the Navajo Nation Indian Tribe, was sentenced on May 25, 2010, by U.S. District Judge Neil V. Wake to 300 months in prison for killing his estranged wife, a 51-year-old member of the Navajo Nation. The facts show that on Jan. 2, 2009, White borrowed a .22 rifle from another individual and confronted his estranged wife in the parking lot at her place of employment. White got into the victim's car and after she

drove a short distance, White argued with her and then fired the .22 rifle three times, hitting the victim twice. White left the scene of the shooting without calling for emergency assistance, and the victim died at the scene from gunshot wounds to the head and chest.

http://www.justice.gov/usao/az/press_releases/index.html

Arizona Man Sentenced to Three Years in Prison for Aggravated Assault (U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona)

Alvin Yazzie, Jr., 42, of Tuba City, Ariz. was sentenced on May 24, 2010, by U.S. District Judge David G. Campbell to 33 months in federal prison followed by placement in an alcohol rehabilitation program while on three years supervised release. The facts showed that Yazzie assaulted one of his relatives with a rock adjacent to the dinosaur tracks, which is a geological site near Tuba City, Ariz. The victim was seriously injured and hospitalized. The assault occurred for undetermined reasons although extreme alcohol intoxication was involved.

http://www.justice.gov/usao/az/press_releases/index.html

Thirty-Year Sentence for Child Sexual Abuse (U.S. Attorney for the District of North Dakota)

Acting U.S. Attorney Lynn Jordheim announced that on May 24, 2010, Glenn J. White Bull, 42, of Fort Yates, N.D., was sentenced before U.S. District Court Judge Daniel L. Hovland on five counts of aggravated sexual abuse of a child under 12 years of age. White Bull was found guilty by a federal jury on Feb. 25, 2010. Judge Hovland sentenced White Bull to serve 30 years in federal prison, the mandatory minimum sentence, to be followed by lifetime supervised release. White Bull was ordered to pay restitution of \$656.55 and to pay a \$500 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund. White Bull must register as a sex offender. The jury found that from September 2008 until March 2009, White Bull sexually abused a child on five separate occasions in and near Fort Yates, N.D., on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nd/pressreleases/index.html>

Belcourt Woman Pleads Guilty in Stabbing Incident (U.S. Attorney for the District of North Dakota)

Acting U.S. Attorney Lynn Jordheim announced that on May 24, 2010, Crystal J. Morin, 30, of Belcourt, N.D., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Judge Daniel L. Hovland to a count of assault with a dangerous weapon. During the early morning hours of April 19, 2009, Morin stabbed the victim in the chest with a knife outside the victim's residence after a dispute between the victim and another male. The injury the victim sustained was not life threatening.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nd/pressreleases/index.html>

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