

## **TRIBAL JUSTICE NEWS**

**WEEK OF JUNE 8, 2010**

**Contact: Melissa Schwartz, Office of Public Affairs: (202) 514-2007**

### **South Dakota Man Sentenced for Abusive Sexual Contact with a Child (U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota)**

U.S. Attorney Brendan V. Johnson announced that a Rosebud, S.D., man charged with abusive sexual contact with a child was sentenced on June 7, 2010, by U.S. District Judge Roberto A. Lange. Anthony E. Farmer was sentenced to 48 months in custody, five years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment to the Victim Assistance Fund. The charge relates to an incident in Mission, S.D., in April 2009 when the defendant had sexual contact with a female child who was under the age of 12. On March 16, 2010, Farmer pled guilty to a superseding information that charged him with abusive sexual contact with a child.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/sd/Media.html>

### **Minnesota man Sentenced for Setting Fire to the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Center (U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota)**

U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones announced that William Lynn Isham, a 21-year-old Nett Lake, Minn., man, was sentenced on June 7, 2010, in federal court for setting fire to the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Center on July 20, 2009. U.S. District Court Judge Patrick J. Schiltz sentenced Isham to 41 months in prison on one count of arson. In his plea agreement, Isham admitted he intentionally set fire to the Reservation's Tribal Center.

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

### **South Dakota Man Sentenced for Assaulting a Federal Officer (U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota)**

U.S. Attorney Brendan V. Johnson announced that a Fort Thompson, S.D., man charged with assaulting, resisting or impeding a federal officer was sentenced on June 7, 2010, by U.S. District Judge Roberto A. Lange. Mark Drapeau, age 25, was sentenced to eight months in custody, one year of supervised release, and a \$25 special assessment to the Victim Assistance Fund. On March 4, 2010, Drapeau pled guilty to a superseding information that charged him with assaulting, resisting, or impeding a federal officer in Buffalo County on Aug. 23, 2009.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/sd/Media.html>

### **Man Sentenced to 33 Months for Assaults Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury (U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota)**

U.S. Attorney Brendan V. Johnson announced that Peter Lloyd Bull Bear, age 22, of Allen, S.D., appeared before U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey L. Viken on June 4, 2010, and pled guilty to an indictment that charged him with sexual abuse. According to court documents, Bull Bear

knowingly engaged in a sexual act with a woman who was incapable of declining his advances or communicate her unwillingness to engage in the sexual act.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/sd/Media.html>

**South Dakota Man Pleads Guilty to Assaulting Federal Officer (U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota)**

U.S. Attorney Brendan V. Johnson announced that Dustin Merrival, age 34, of Pine Ridge, S.D., appeared before U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey L. Viken on June 4, 2010, and pleaded guilty to an indictment that charged him with assault on a federal officer. According to court documents, Merrival assaulted a federally commissioned law enforcement officer of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Department of Public Safety, while the officer attempted to handcuff the defendant and effectuate an arrest. Merrival engaged in physical contact with the officer and was intoxicated at the time of the offense.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/sd/Media.html>

**Two Charged in Minnesota Assaults (U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota)**

U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones announced on June 4, 2010, that two Red Lake, Minn., residents were charged in federal court for unrelated assaults. In the first case, Vanessa Kay Cobenais, age 47, was charged with one count of assault resulting in serious bodily injury. In the second case, Soloman Francis Jourdain, age 22, was charged with one count of aggravated assault with intent to commit murder. Cobenais's complaint alleges that on May 22, 2010, she assaulted a woman resulting in serious bodily injury. In the second case, Jourdain is alleged to have stabbed his victim on May 23, 2010, while at a graduation party.

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

**Federal Indictments Filed Against James Ernest Lespier and Richard Delano Huskey (U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina)**

U.S. Attorney Anne M. Tompkins announced on June 4, 2010, that James Ernest Lespier, an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has been indicted by a federal grand jury on one count alleging murder in connection with a fatal shooting, which allegedly took place on the reservation on May 18, 2010. Lespier is also charged in a second criminal count with use of and carrying a firearm in relation to a crime of violence. U.S. Attorney Tompkins also announced that Richard Delano Huskey, an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has been indicted by a federal grand jury on a charge of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute marijuana, following execution of a search warrant on his residence on May 6, 2010.

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

**Nebraska Man Sentenced for Unlawfully Killing Eagles (U.S. Attorney for the District of Nebraska)**

U.S. Attorney Deborah R. Gilg announced on June 3, 2010, that Shane Bertucci, 27, was

sentenced to five months in prison for his conviction on two counts of unlawfully killing eagles and one count of unlawfully selling red tail hawk feathers. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service received a report of several eagle carcasses found alongside the Missouri River near Macy, Neb. During the course of the investigation, the agent received information that Bertucci may have been involved in shooting the eagles. Bertucci was interviewed and admitted to killing three eagles and five hawks. He also admitted to selling red-tailed hawk feathers for \$100.00.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/ne/press/>

**Arizona Man Sentenced to Seven Years in Federal Prison for Shooting Victim in the Face  
(U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona)**

U.S. Attorney Dennis K. Burke announced on June 2, 2010, that Richard Chatlin, 27, of San Carlos, Ariz., was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge James A. Teilborg to seven years in prison for use of a firearm during a crime of violence. This offense occurred on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation in San Carlos. According to court documents, on Feb. 6, 2009, Chatlin lured the victim away from a party, by leading the victim to believe he needed help. When they were alone, Chatlin pulled a gun on the victim and shot him in the face.

[http://www.justice.gov/usao/az/press\\_releases/2010/2010-113\(Chatlin\).pdf](http://www.justice.gov/usao/az/press_releases/2010/2010-113(Chatlin).pdf)

**New Mexico Man Sentenced for Assault (U.S. Attorney for the District of New Mexico)**

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced on June 1, 2010, that Michael Errol Hayes, 33, of Shiprock, N.M., was sentenced by U.S. District M. Christina Armijo to a term of imprisonment of 33 months to be followed by a term of five years of supervised release. Hayes entered a plea of guilty on March 4, 2010, to two counts of assault resulting in serious bodily injury. The offenses occurred on the Navajo Nation.

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/nm/pr/index.html>

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