



## U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney  
Northern District of Illinois  
Western Division*

Scott A. Verseman  
Assistant U.S. Attorney  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/iln](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/iln)

308 West State Street - Room 300  
Rockford, Illinois 61101

PH: (815) 987-4444  
FAX: (815) 987-4236

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### **MEXICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED TO 41 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGALLY RE-ENTERING THE UNITED STATES**

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, and GARY J. HARTWIG, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, today made the following announcement:

Yesterday afternoon, United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala sentenced **ORLANDO TAPIA-FONSECA**, 32, who is a citizen of Mexico, to 41 months in prison for illegally re-entering the United States following his previous deportation to Mexico.

Tapia-Fonseca was originally indicted by a federal grand jury on August 10, 2010, and charged with illegally re-entering the United States. Tapia-Fonseca pled guilty to the charge on November 19, 2010. According to plea agreement, Tapia-Fonseca was convicted of an aggravated felony in Brown County, Wisconsin, on April 8, 1998, and sentenced to 9 months in jail and 2 years of probation. As stated in the plea agreement, Tapia-Fonseca was then ordered removed from the United States on July 30, 1998. Tapia-Fonseca further admitted that sometime after August 8, 1998, he illegally re-entered the United States without obtaining the appropriate consent of either the United States Attorney General, or the Department of Homeland Security. The Department of Homeland Security was alerted to Tapia-Fonseca's presence in the United States on June 22, 2010, upon being notified by McHenry County law enforcement.

In addition to the 41 months' prison sentence, the court ordered Tapia-Fonseca to surrender to immigration authorities following his release from prison.

The case was investigated by the Chicago office of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney SCOTT A. VERSEMAN.

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