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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 2, 2011
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WEEK IN REVIEW – SOUTH BEND

South Bend, Indiana -- The United States Attorney's Office announced today that:

PLEAS:

- Samuel Frazier, 48, of South Bend, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing has been set for 3/5/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.
- Uzziel Criollo-Castaneda, 34, of Logansport, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of illegal reentry to the United States. Sentencing has been set for 3/1/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Custom Office of Homeland Security Investigations and the Cass County Sheriff's Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.
- Marvin Gaye Taylor, 45, of Michigan City, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Nuechterlein to the felony offense of distribution of crack cocaine. Sentencing has been set for 3/1/12. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

DISPOSITIONS:

- Byron Harris, 31, of Elkhart, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 80 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.

- John Skomac, Jr., 28, of LaPorte, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to 46 months imprisonment, \$22,000 in restitution, and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the LaPorte County Sheriff's Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.
- Edwin Hernandez, 29, of Elkhart, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 18 months imprisonment after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Elkhart County Sheriff's Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.
- Samuel Jones, Jr., 48, of South Bend, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 18 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm and ammunition. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Maciejczyk.
- Paul Higdon, 47, of LaPorte, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 70 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to the felony offense of being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kenneth Hays.