



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota**

**B. Todd Jones,
United States Attorney**

**Jeanne F. Cooney
Director of Community Relations
(612) 664-5611
email: jeanne.cooney@usdoj.gov**

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, April 21, 2011
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN

Man indicted for entering the U.S. illegally after being previously deported as a criminal

In the District of Minnesota, an indictment has been filed against a Mexican national who entered the United States illegally after being deported as a criminal. Earlier today in Minneapolis, Omar Cardozo, age 28, no known address, was charged with one count of illegal re-entry after deportation.

Cardozo's indictment alleges that on March 30, 2011, he was found in the U.S. illegally after having been previously deported. His deportation followed a 2009 conviction in the Western District of Washington for conspiracy to commit money laundering. The current federal indictment resulted from a March 30, 2011, traffic stop by the Richfield Police Department and the Minnesota State Patrol. Cardozo was later arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Enforcement and Removal Operations ("ICE ERO").

If convicted, Cardozo faces a potential maximum penalty of ten years in prison. All sentences will be determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by ICE ERO, the Richfield Police Department and the Minnesota State Patrol. It is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Colin P. Johnson.

Cardozo will be deported after serving his sentence, if convicted.

###

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.

