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News Release

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Orr woman indicted for assault with a dangerous weapon

A federal indictment unsealed earlier today in St. Paul alleges that a 43-year-old Orr woman stabbed a man on August 28, 2010, while on the Bois Forte Indian Reservation. The indictment, charging Teresa Lynn Hill with one count of assault with a dangerous weapon and one count of assault resulting in serious bodily injury, was unsealed following Hill's initial appearance in federal court in Bemidji.

While at a residence on the Bois Forte Indian Reservation, Hill allegedly stabbed the victim in the chest and upper left arm following an altercation. Police were called after the man walked to another residence. He then was taken to the hospital for medical attention.

If convicted, Hill faces a potential maximum penalty of ten years in prison on each charge. All sentences will be determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA"). It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Deidre Y. Aanstad and Karen B. Schommer.

Because the Bois Forte Indian Reservation is a federal-jurisdiction reservation, some of the crimes that occur there are investigated by the FBI in conjunction with the BIA. Those cases are prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

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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.