



U.S. Department of Justice

Kenneth J. Gonzales

United States Attorney

District of New Mexico

201 3rd Street NW

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

CONTACT: *Elizabeth M. Martinez, Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney, Public Affairs Officer*
elizabeth.martinez@usdoj.gov – 505-224-1469

NEWS ADVISORY

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**MEXICAN NATIONAL CHARGED WITH FEDERAL
NARCOTICS OFFENSES ABSCONDS**

Luis Carlos Ruiz-Torres, 32, a Mexican national charged with federal narcotics trafficking offenses, has absconded and is considered a fugitive. Ruiz-Torres and nineteen co-defendants were charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine, cocaine base and marijuana in a 33-count federal indictment filed on March 23, 2010. If convicted of the charges against him, Ruiz-Torres faces a minimum ten-year term of imprisonment and a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. On April 2, 2010, the United States District court released Ruiz-Torres on certain conditions, including the requirement that he wear a GPS Electronic Monitoring Device, and submit to the close supervision of Pre-Trial Services pending trial.

On December 10, 2010, the United States District Court issued an arrest warrant for Ruiz-Torres after he violated the conditions of his release by unlawfully removing his electronic monitoring device, and absconding from the supervision of Pre-Trial Services.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales and United States Marshal Conrad Candelaria seek the assistance of the public in locating Ruiz-Torres. If you have any information about Ruiz-Torres's whereabouts, please contact Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Mark Hyland at 505-975-0110 or any law enforcement officer, or call 9-1-1 immediately. Please do not attempt to apprehend this fugitive yourself.

United States Attorney Gonzales reminds the public that an indictment is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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