



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian  
Northern District of New York**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[Plattsburgh, New York]—United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today that AGUSTIN TIGELINO MARTINEZ was sentenced to time served (over 14 months) on January 26, 2011, before United States District Judge Thomas J. McAvoy in Albany for conspiracy to commit alien smuggling.

MARTINEZ, age 47, of Bronx, New York, was convicted following a jury trial in December 2010 on both charges against him: one count of conspiracy to bring aliens to the United States for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain; and one count of conspiracy to transport or attempt to transport an illegal alien within the United States. The evidence at the trial demonstrated that MARTINEZ conspired with others in a commercial smuggling attempt to bring a citizen of India, with no permission to be in the United States, from Canada to the Champlain, New York area, and then to transport that illegal alien from the Champlain and Plattsburgh areas to the New York City area. The smugglers utilized a remote area to cross the international boundary between Quebec and New York, in the State and Northern District of New York. MARTINEZ and others were arrested on November 4, 2009, as the result of joint operations between United States and Canadian members of the Integrated Border Enforcement Team after Swanton Sector United States Border Patrol (USBP) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents in Rouses Point received information about impending smuggling activity. The Integrated Border Enforcement Team members involved in the operations included the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Surete de Quebec (Quebec Provincial Police) based in Lacolle, Quebec, Customs and Border Protection Office

of Air and Marine in Plattsburgh, New York, in addition to the United States Border Patrol and Homeland Security, assisted by the Clinton County Sheriff's Office and Plattsburgh Police Department.

United States Attorney Hartunian stated that “the indictment and prosecution of MARTINEZ and others are an example of the importance of international cooperation between United States and Canadian officials to protect the border and exploit information about impending criminal activity impacting both countries.”

Any questions may be directed to Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Horsman in Plattsburgh at (518) 314-7800 or Deputy Criminal Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney William Pericak in Albany at (518) 431-0247.