



Department of Justice

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Elizabeth Horsman (518) 314-7800

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[Plattsburgh, New York]—United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today that JOHN DAVID JACOBS, age 39, of Akwesasne, New York, was sentenced to 26 months imprisonment on Thursday February 3, 2011, before United States District Judge Glenn T. Suddaby in Albany, for conspiracy to possess and transport contraband cigarettes. Co-defendants DARREN FORREST MACNEIL and JAMIE RICHARD MIGNEAULT were sentenced on prior dates. DARREN FORREST MACNEIL, age 37, of Cornwall and Moose Factory, Ontario, was sentenced to 9 months of incarceration and 36 months supervised release on January 5, 2011, for conspiracy to possess and transport contraband cigarettes and entry to the United States without lawful inspection. JAMIE RICHARD MIGNEAULT, age 32, of Cornwall, Ontario, was sentenced to 4½ months of incarceration and 36 months of supervised release on September 28, 2010, for conspiracy to possess and transport contraband cigarettes, reentry to the United States of a refused alien, and entry to the United States without inspection.

JOHN DAVID JACOBS, DARREN FORREST MACNEIL and JAMIE RICHARD MIGNEAULT were arrested May 19, 2010, near the Massena Intake on the St. Lawrence River near Massena, New York, in the act of smuggling untaxed cigarettes from the United States to Canada. Agents seized approximately 180,000 cigarettes.

The prosecution is a result of an international joint investigation by these agencies: United States Border Patrol, Swanton Sector at Massena, New York; the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms in Albany and Buffalo, New York; the New York State Department of Revenue; Canada