



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today the sentencing of a Utica man for aggravated illegal re-entry into the United States after prior deportation.

MANUEL CARRASCO, 42, of Utica, New York, was sentenced today by the Hon. Glenn T. Suddaby to a term of 56 months imprisonment for illegally re-entering the United States after removal as an aggravated felon. Today's sentencing followed CARRASCO's December 21, 2011 guilty plea to the charge.

CARRASCO, a citizen of the Dominican Republic, was involuntarily removed from the United States in 2001, and again in 2006, following his felony drug conviction in New York State in 2000 for which he received a sentence of 1 to 3 years imprisonment. On November 5, 2011, CARRASCO was arrested by Utica Police after an incident in which he allegedly assaulted his girlfriend with a knife and with his fists, and thereafter allegedly attempted to evade arrest when driving away from the scene, in the process narrowly missing hitting one of the Utica police officers who had responded to the domestic incident call. The state charges against CARRASCO, which include assault with intent to cause bodily injury, which charges are only allegations, remain pending. After serving his sentence, CARRASCO faces a third deportation.

This conviction is the result of an investigation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Operations, under the direction of Field Office Director, Michael T. Phillips and the Utica Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Carl G. Eurenus, who can be reached at 448-0672.