



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert Pitman  
Western District of Texas

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **ALABAMA MAN IN FEDERAL CUSTODY CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTING TO ASSAULT U.S. BORDER PATROL AGENTS NEAR LANGTRY, TEXAS**

David Steiner, a 38-year-old Vinegar Bend, AL, resident charged with felony assault of a U.S. Border Patrol agent, waived his detention hearing this morning agreeing to remain in federal custody pending the outcome of his criminal case announced **United States Attorney Robert Pitman and Rodolfo Karisch, Del Rio Sector Chief Patrol Agent, U.S. Border Patrol.**

Steiner is charged in a four-count federal grand jury indictment with three counts of assault and one count of possession of a stolen firearm. Authorities allege that on May 25, 2012, Steiner used his vehicle to charge at three Border Patrol agents near Langtry, Texas, during an attempt to avoid potential detention after fleeing from a traffic stop near Comstock, Texas. As a result of Steiner's actions, the agents were forced to drive off the paved roadway to avoid being struck by Steiner. Agents gave chase and the pursuit continued toward Sanderson, Texas. The pursuit ended when Steiner hit an oncoming vehicle killing two occupants and gravely injuring the driver. Inside Steiner's vehicle, authorities recovered a .22 caliber rifle which Steiner knew was stolen.

Upon conviction, Steiner faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each assault charge and up to ten years in federal prison for the stolen firearm charge.

"By the nature of their jobs, our agents routinely put themselves in harm's way to protect the public," said Rodolfo Karisch, Del Rio Sector Chief Patrol Agent, U.S. Border Patrol. "However, reckless disregard for public safety endangers not only law enforcement officials, but private citizens as well. We look forward to seeing that Mr. Steiner is held accountable for his actions."

This case was investigated by agents with the Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Internal Affairs with assistance from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Kinney County Sheriff's Office, Terrell County Sheriff's Office and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Assistant United States Attorney Robert Cadena is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

**An indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**

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