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MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO PRISON

CHARLESTON, W. Va. – United States Attorney R. Booth Goodwin II announced today that Israel Gonzalez, 28, was sentenced by United States District Thomas E. Johnston to 21 months in prison for illegally reentering the United States. Gonzalez, a citizen of Mexico, pleaded guilty to the charge in July.

The conviction stems from a traffic stop conducted on March 18, 2010. Authorities with the Kanawha County Sheriff's department and the West Virginia State Police stopped a van carrying seven passengers in South Charleston, West Virginia. Requests for identification revealed that Gonzalez, a passenger in the van, and another passenger were in the country illegally. Subsequently, ICE agents were contacted, and they took custody of both illegal aliens. Record and fingerprint searches revealed that Gonzalez had previously been convicted for federally smuggling illegal aliens in El Paso, Texas (Western District of Texas). After completing his prison sentence, Gonzalez was deported from the United States in 2006, and he did not obtain consent from the Attorney General to reenter the country.

The Kanawha County Sheriff's Department, West Virginia State Police and Bureau of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement jointly conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Erik S. Goes handled the prosecution.

**SOUTH CHARLESTON MAN SENTENCED FOR OBSTRUCTING
DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL**

Also in Charleston, Ronald King, 32, of South Charleston, West Virginia was sentenced by United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver, Jr. to five years probation for impeding a Federal officer engaged in the performance of official duties.

On April 9, 2010, U.S. Deputy Marshals attempted to arrest a Federal defendant, Jeremy Kiser, for failing to appear for a supervised release hearing. At the time, Kiser was residing with King at King's Cross Lanes, West Virginia apartment. The deputies noticed Kiser's vehicle outside the apartment. Pretending he was there to deliver a pizza, one deputy knocked on the door and King answered. The deputy identified himself as being with the United States Marshals Service and directed Kiser to show his hands. King, in his attempt to obstruct and impede Kiser's arrest, then tried to slam the door shut by closing the door with force and causing the deputy's foot to be wedge in the door. King then screamed for Kiser to run. King and Kiser were subsequently arrested after the deputies were able to gain entry into the home.

The U.S. Marshals Service conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Lisa G. Johnston handled the prosecution.

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