



Department of Justice

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AGGRAVATED FELON ALIEN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 7 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Tampa, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that U.S. District Judge Steven D. Merryday today sentenced Erick Garcia-Sandobal (29), a Honduran citizen, to 87 months in federal prison for being an aggravated felon alien found in the United States without permission after deportation.

Garcia-Sandobal entered a plea of guilty to the charge on January 31, 2011.

According to court documents, Garcia-Sandobal, a/k/a Erik Garcia, is a native and citizen of Honduras. He has an aggravated felony conviction for obstructing or opposing an officer with violence and two counts of battery on a law enforcement officer. He was deported to Honduras from the United States on March 14, 1998.

On October 29, 2010, Garcia-Sandobal was found by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers in Clearwater. Garcia-Sandobal was found to be voluntarily in the U.S. without having received the consent of the Attorney General of the United States or the Secretary for the Department of Homeland Security to re-apply for admission to the U.S.

This case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO). It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald L. Hansen.