

For Immediate Release
August 10, 2011

**PREVIOUSLY DEPORTED MEXICAN NATIONAL RECEIVES 21-MONTH
PRISON SENTENCE FOR UNLAWFUL RE-ENTRY INTO UNITED STATES**

ALBUQUERQUE – This afternoon in Albuquerque federal court, **Ezequiel Soto-Sarabia**, 40, was sentenced to a 21-month term of imprisonment based on his conviction for re-entering the United States without authorization and after having previously been deported. Soto-Sarabia, a Mexican national, will be deported after completing his prison sentence.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said Soto-Sarabia was previously deported to Mexico from El Paso, Texas on October 1, 1993, subsequent to an aggravated narcotics trafficking felony conviction.

Soto-Sarabia was arrested in this case on December 23, 2010 by United States Border Patrol Agents in Dona Ana County, New Mexico, after they determined that he was a Mexican citizen who was illegally in the United States. Soto-Sarabia has been in federal custody since that time. Soto-Sarabia entered a guilty plea to an information charging him with re-entry by a removed alien on March 9, 2011.

Assistant United States Attorney Lynn Wang prosecuted the case, which was investigated by Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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