

For Immediate Release  
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**THREE PREVIOUSLY DEPORTED MEXICAN NATIONALS SENTENCED  
FOR UNLAWFUL RE-ENTRY INTO UNITED STATES**

ALBUQUERQUE – During separate sentencing proceedings held this morning in federal court in Albuquerque, a United States District Judge sentenced three Mexican nationals to prison for their respective convictions for re-entering the United States without authorization and after having previously been deported. Each man will be deported after completing his prison sentence.

The Judge sentenced **Adrian Armendariz-Castro**, 36, of Chihuahua, Mexico, to a 51-month term of imprisonment. Court filings reflect that Armendariz-Castro was arrested on March 8, 2011 by United States Border Patrol Agents in Luna County after they determined that he was in the United States without authorization. The Agents' investigation revealed that Armendariz-Castro previously had been deported to Mexico on May 28, 2009, following a felony conviction of possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute. He entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging him with re-entry by a removed alien on May 26, 2011.

**Felix Aranda-Diaz**, 33, of Chihuahua, Mexico, was sentenced to a 41-month term of imprisonment during his sentencing proceeding. Aranda-Diaz was arrested on April 9, 2011, by United States Border Patrol Agents in Dona Ana County, after they determined that he was a Mexican citizen who was illegally in the United States. Investigation revealed that Aranda-Diaz previously had been deported to Mexico on July 8, 2009, subsequent to a felony drug trafficking conviction. He entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging him with re-entry by a removed alien on June 7, 2011.

During his sentencing proceeding, **Robert Miranda-Esparza**, 29, of Sinaloa, Mexico,

was sentenced to 33 months of imprisonment. Miranda-Esparza was arrested on April 1, 2011, by United States Border Patrol Agents in Hidalgo County. Court records reflect that Miranda-Esparza previously had been deported to Mexico on December 5, 2005, following a felony conviction for possession of narcotics. On May 20, 2011, Miranda-Esparza entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging him with re-entry by a removed alien.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Assistant United States Attorneys Holland S. Kastrin, Lynn W.Y. Wang and Norman Cairns prosecuted the cases, which were investigated by Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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