



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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**MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO 135 MONTHS IN PRISON
FOR METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING CONVICTION**

ALBUQUERQUE – Earlier today, a federal judge sentenced Abraham Bobadilla-Campos, 38, a Mexican national residing in the vicinity of Los Angeles, Calif., to a 135-month term of imprisonment for his methamphetamine trafficking conviction. Bobadilla-Campos will be deported after he completes his prison sentence.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Bobadilla-Campos has been in custody since Sept. 22, 2009, when he and co-defendant Bianca Sanchez-Caballero, 29, of El Monte, Calif., were arrested after officers found more than 22 pounds of methamphetamine concealed in their pickup truck during a routine traffic stop. On Oct. 21, 2012, they were indicted and charged with conspiracy and possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute.

According to court records, at approximately 6:30 a.m., on Sept. 22, 2009, a New Mexico State Police (NMSP) officer executed a traffic stop of the truck Bobadilla-Campos and Sanchez-Caballero were traveling in after he observed the truck swerving off and on east-bound Interstate 40. As a result of their nervous demeanors and inconsistent answers to questions regarding their travel plans, the officer asked Bobadilla-Campos and Sanchez-Caballero whether they were transporting drugs or other contraband. Both denied doing so. After obtaining the consent of both Bobadilla-Campos and Sanchez-Caballero to search the truck, NMSP officers retrieved 19 packages from a false compartment behind the truck's rear seats. The packages contained more than 22 pounds of methamphetamine.

On July 14, 2011, Bobadilla-Campos pled guilty to both counts of the indictment. In entering his plea, he admitted possessing 10.35 kilograms of methamphetamine on Sept. 22, 2009, and acknowledged that he and others intended to distribute the methamphetamine.

On July 26, 2012, Sanchez-Caballero pled guilty to an information charging her with misprision of a felony. In her plea agreement, Sanchez-Caballero admitted knowing that Bobadilla-Campos was transporting methamphetamine on Sept. 22, 2009, and not alerting law enforcement authorities of that information. She remains on conditions of release pending her sentencing hearing, which is scheduled for Jan. 17, 2013.

The case was investigated by the DEA and NMSP, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicholas Jon Ganjei.

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