

For Immediate Release
April 13, 2011

**LOVING, NEW MEXICO MAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS
IN PRISON FOR FEDERAL COCAINE CONSPIRACY**

ALBUQUERQUE – Yesterday, in federal court in Albuquerque, Loving, New Mexico resident **Efrain Santos Onsurez**, 49, was sentenced to five years in prison for conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine. Onsurez will serve a four-year term of supervised release after he completes his prison sentence. Onsurez has been in federal custody since his arrest on June 9, 2010.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that these charges resulted from a two-year Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) investigation of a cocaine trafficking organization operating in Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas. Gonzales also said that the investigation was designated as an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (“OCDETF”) case. OCDETF is a nationwide program that combines the resources and unique expertise of federal agencies, along with their local counterparts, in a coordinated attack against major drug trafficking and money laundering organizations. This investigation was part of Project Deliverance, a national coordinated strike against Mexican-based drug trafficking organizations. This DEA initiative focused on disrupting the transportation infrastructure of these drug organizations in the United States.

During his plea hearing on June 12, 2011, Onsurez admitted that between April and June 2010, two kilograms of cocaine were delivered to his ranch in Loving, New Mexico and that other members of the conspiracy sold the cocaine.

This case was investigated by DEA, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Renee Camacho and Michael Nammar.

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