

Department of Justice

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PALMER PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT
IN CONNECTION WITH ESCAPE OF FEDERAL INMATE

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Eddie R. Palmer, 35, of Rochester, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer, to a felony charge of aiding escape. This charge carries a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer M. Noto, who handled the case, stated that the defendant, an inmate incarcerated with Joseph Mitchell at the Monroe County Jail, admitted to assisting Mitchell in his escape on March 31, 2011. Palmer admitted to serving as a "look-out" to warn if guards were approaching while Mitchell sawed the bars on windows inside the jail. Palmer also admitted helping Mitchell break the outside jail window that the two ultimately escaped from. Mitchell and Palmer were then picked up by Lakesia Binion who transported them to an area near Sodus, New York. Mitchell and Palmer were apprehended approximately a week later on April 8, 2011, inside a camping trailer located on a residential property in Sodus, New York.

Binion, meanwhile, pleaded guilty in federal Court yesterday to her role in connection with this escape.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Deputies of the United States Marshal's Service, under the direction of Charles Salina and Investigators of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, under the direction of Sheriff Patrick O'Flynn.

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