

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2011

**ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL RECEIVES 22 YEAR PRISON
SENTENCE FOR VIOLATING FEDERAL FIREARMS LAWS**

ALBUQUERQUE – United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales announced that, this morning in federal court in Albuquerque, Moriarty resident **Adam Jason Garcia**, 33, was sentenced to a 22-year term of imprisonment to be followed by three years supervised release for his federal firearms convictions. Specifically, Garcia was sentenced to fifteen years (180 months) prison-time for being a career felon in possession of a firearm to be followed by an additional seven years (84 months) imprisonment for using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence, namely, the March 9, 2009 robbery of the Smoothie King located at 8000 Paseo Del Norte NE in Albuquerque.

Garcia was indicted on June 25, 2009, and charged with (1) violating the Hobbs Act by committing a robbery that interfered with interstate commerce; (2) using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence; and (3) being a career felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. According to the indictment, Garcia was prohibited from possessing firearms because he previously had been convicted of seven felony offenses in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of New Mexico. Garcia was deemed a career criminal based on his convictions for auto burglary, the unlawful taking of a motor vehicle, forgery and four robberies.

Garcia was arrested on July 20, 2010 and has been in federal custody since that time. On December 20, 2010, Garcia entered guilty pleas to Counts 2 and 3 of the indictment under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. The Court dismissed Count 1 after Garcia was sentenced.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Louis E. Valencia, and was

investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives with assistance from the Albuquerque Police Department and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office.

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