

For Immediate Release
June 13, 2011

**NAVAJO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL
ASSAULT WITH DANGEROUS WEAPON OFFENSE**

ALBUQUERQUE – Today in federal court in Albuquerque, **Lukacema Gillie Yazzie**, a 24-year-old enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, entered a guilty plea to an assault with a dangerous weapon charge under a plea agreement with the United States Attorney's Office. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Yazzie will be sentenced to an 18-month term of imprisonment to be followed by not more than five years of supervised release. Yazzie has been in federal custody since his arrest on December 13, 2010, and will remain detained pending his sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Yazzie pleaded guilty to stabbing a member of the Mescalero Apache Nation in Shiprock, New Mexico, which is located in the Navajo Indian Reservation, on December 8, 2010. Yazzie was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon in a criminal complaint on December 13, 2010, and was indicted on that same offense on December 28, 2010. In his plea agreement, Yazzie admitted committing the assault charged in the indictment.

The case was investigated by the Navajo Nation Department of Public Safety, Shiprock Division, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Shana B. Long.

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