

For Immediate Release
November 9, 2011

**SAN FELIPE PUEBLO MAN RECEIVES EIGHT YEAR PRISON SENTENCE
FOR FEDERAL CHILD SEX ABUSE CONVICTION**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning in federal court in Santa Fe, **Patrick J. Valencia**, 43, was sentenced to an eight-year term of imprisonment to be followed by five years of supervised release for a child sexual abuse conviction. Valencia, an enrolled member of the Pueblo of San Felipe, will be required to register as a sex offender after he completes his prison sentence.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Valencia was indicted on December 15, 2010, and charged with sexually abusing a female victim on three separate occasions between June 20, 2009 and June 30, 2009. The indictment alleged that the three offenses occurred in Indian County in Sandoval County.

On May 23, 2011, Valencia entered a guilty plea to a criminal information charging him with sexual abuse of a female child who had not attained the age of 16 years on a date between June 20, 2009 and June 30, 2009. In his plea agreement, Valencia admitted engaging in a sexual act with the child. Specifically, Valencia admitted touching the child's genitalia for his own sexual gratification and despite the fact that the child was a minor and afraid. Valencia's unlawful conduct took place in his home, which is within the Pueblo of San Felipe. Valencia was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service after entering his plea.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services, Northern Pueblos Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer M. Rozzoni.

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