



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NINE DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY TO CHARGES RELATED TO BEING ILLEGAL ALIENS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that nine defendants pleaded guilty in federal court today to charges related to being illegal aliens in the United States.

The nine Mexico residents, who formerly worked at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Mo., pleaded guilty in federal court before U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to separate three-count indictments returned by a Jefferson City federal grand jury.

Galdino Alvarez-Vargas, 20, Cleofas Ambrocia-Pacheco, 36, Eugenia Ambrosio-Almaraz, 28, Salomon Hernandez-Ruiz, 37, Felix Perales-Vazquez, 39, Raul Mendoza-Santiago, 20, Rufino Hernandez-Ruiz, 34, Victor Reyes-Luna, 41, and Luis Raymundo Matus-Matus, 35, pleaded guilty this morning to charges of illegally entering the United States and possessing false identification documents, including counterfeit resident alien cards and social security cards, in Camden County, Mo., on Nov. 6, 2002.

The co-defendants were initially arrested following the execution of a search warrant on Nov. 6, 2002, at Tan-Tar-A Resort, located at 6521 White Oak Circle in Osage Beach.

Each of the co-defendants' sentences will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Sentencing hearings will be scheduled after the completion of presentence investigations by the U.S. Probation Office.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tony Gonzalez and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. The cases were investigated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow