



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GUNS AND DRUGS GETS MINEOLA MAN PRISON TIME

(Tyler, Texas) A 26-year-old Mineola, Texas man has been sentenced to 120 months in federal prison for Distribution of Methamphetamine and Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime in the Eastern District of Texas. **BENJAMIN ELEZONDO BARRERA** was sentenced yesterday by United States District Judge William M. Steger.

According to information presented in court, Barrera and 33-year-old **RAMIRO AMBRIZ DEL ANGEL** were arrested on September 25, 2003, while conducting a one pound methamphetamine transaction at a Tyler hotel. Del Angel, a Mexican citizen who most recently resided in Gilmer, pleaded guilty to distribution of methamphetamine on August 2, 2004, and was immediately sentenced to 151 months in federal prison.

Matthew D. Orwig, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas was pleased with the sentencing, "Methamphetamine is a nasty drug that destroys lives. We will continue to vigorously prosecute those who use, manufacture, or supply Methamphetamine in this District."

This case was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Canton Police Department, the Mineola Police Department, and the Wood County Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Ann Cozby prosecuted the case.

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