



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEXICAN CITIZEN FOUND IN DEKALB COUNTY SENTENCED TO 74 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGALLY RE-ENTERING THE UNITED STATES

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; and GARY J. HARTWIG, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala today sentenced **CRUZ LOPEZ**, 27, who is a citizen of Mexico, to 74 months in prison for illegally re-entering the United States following his previous deportation to Mexico. On November 17, 2009, Lopez pleaded guilty and admitted that he had illegally re-entered the United States. As he admitted in the plea agreement, Lopez had previously been deported from the United States on July 29, 2006, following a drug trafficking conviction.

In addition to the 74 months prison sentence, the court ordered Lopez to surrender to immigration authorities following his release from prison.

The case was investigated by the Chicago office of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and was assisted by the DeKalb Police Department. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney **BRENDAN A. MAHER**.

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