

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Atlantic City Man Sentenced to 50 Months in Prison for Aiding the
Robbery and Assault of a U.S. Postal Service Employee

(More)

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CAMDEN – A Camden man was sentenced to 50 months in federal prison today for his role in the assault and robbery of a U.S. Postal Service mail carrier in Atlantic City, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

U.S. District Judge Robert B. Kugler also ordered Ismael Gonzalez, 21, a.k.a. “Emilio Gonzalez” and “Darwin Ordonez,” of Camden, to serve 5 years of supervised release upon the completion of his prison term if he is not deported.

Gonzalez pleaded guilty before Judge Kugler on June 2, 2009, to a one-count Information that charges him with aiding and abetting the robbery of a U.S. Postal Service mail carrier. At his plea hearing, Gonzalez admitted that on June 15, 2007, he and Doni Maldonado, 26, a Honduran illegally residing in Atlantic City, were in the lobby of Building C of the Chelsea Village Apartments in Atlantic City, when a U.S. Postal Service mail carrier entered the lobby. Gonzalez admitted that he acted as a lookout in an effort to assist Maldonado’s attempt to rob the mail carrier. When the mail carrier attempted to open the apartment mailboxes with his arrow key, Maldonado hit the mail carrier on the side of his head with a hard object. The blow to the head caused the mail carrier to fall to the floor and suffer a skull fracture. While the mail carrier was lying on the floor, Maldonado took the carrier’s arrow key and the two defendants fled the building, Gonzalez admitted.

Gonzalez admitted that he and Maldonado used the arrow key steal mail from mailboxes located in at least one other apartment building in the same neighborhood.

On Sept. 19, 2008, Maldonado pleaded guilty before Judge Kugler to one count of assault with intent to rob a postal mail carrier. On April 3, 2009, Judge Kugler sentenced Maldonado to 57 months in federal prison.

In determining the actual sentence, Judge Kugler consulted the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Fishman credited Postal Inspectors with the Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of Inspector in Charge Teresa L. Thome, Special Agents with the Social Security Administration Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Sharon MacDermott, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction

of Special Agent in Charge Peter T. Edge, and the Atlantic City Police Department, under the direction of Chief John Mooney with the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason Richardson of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense Attorney: Brian O'Malley, Esq. Haddon Heights