



Department of Justice

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**FATHER AND DAUGHTER CHARGED WITH HARBORING AND CONCEALING
FROM ARREST A MAN WHO ILLEGALLY REENTERED U.S.
AFTER BEING DEPORTED FOR COMMITTING MULTIPLE VIOLENT CRIMES**

COLUMBUS – A federal grand jury here has indicted Amanda Renee Dixon, 29, of Canal Winchester, charging her with one count of harboring and concealing from arrest Daniel Arturo Batista, an illegal alien who had re-entered the United States after being deported following his felony convictions in several states for crimes involving burglary, drugs, and sexual assault. The grand jury also indicted her and her father, Robert P. Dixon, 56, also of Canal Winchester, charging each with one count being an accessory after the fact by assisting Batista to avoid arrest on federal criminal immigration charges.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Brian Moskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Investigations in Ohio and Michigan, and Col. David W. Dicken, Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol announced the indictment returned yesterday.

Batista served 11 months in prison in 2002 following his conviction in Franklin County Common Pleas Court for gross sexual imposition and was deported to his native Panama on December 9, 2003 following his jail sentence.

In May 2008, ICE agents learned he was back in the United States and was living under the name Carlos A. Acevedo. ICE agents went to his house in Galloway and questioned Batista, who had a romantic relationship with Amanda Renee Dixon. Batista fled when agents attempted to arrest him. An Ohio State Highway Patrolman arrested Batista on February 20, 2009 when the trooper stopped a car driven by Amanda Renee Dixon for speeding on Route 33 near Carroll, Ohio. Batista was a passenger in the car.

“Batista pleaded guilty on July 8, 2009 to one count of illegal reentry into the United States,” Stewart said. “Senior U.S. District Judge George C. Smith sentenced him on January 6, 2010 to 78 months imprisonment.”

Robert P. Dixon allegedly assisted his daughter in order to conceal Batista from arrest on federal charges.

Harboring is punishable by up to five years imprisonment. Being an accessory after the fact is punishable in this case by imprisonment of up to ten years.

“Intentionally aiding someone so that they can break the law is a crime in and of itself and that type of conduct must not go unchallenged, said Moskowitz. “ICE will not tolerate flagrant violations of the law and will continue to bring these violators to justice.”

Stewart commended the cooperative investigation by ICE agents and the Highway Patrol trooper, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorney Dale E. Williams Jr., who is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an accusation. A defendant should be presumed innocent unless convicted in court.

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