



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

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### THREATS ON AN AIRCRAFT, FRAUD AND DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES AMONG WICHITA GRAND JURY INDICTMENTS

WICHITA, KAN. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that a total of nine people were indicted June 2, 2005, by a federal grand jury in Wichita, Kan. Those indicted include:

**Carlos Lopez**, 34, Venice, Calif., who is charged with threatening to assault an individual on an aircraft. According to the indictment, Lopez threatened to physically assault another passenger while he was a passenger on American Airlines flight 1424 from Dallas to Wichita on March 12, 2005.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of one year in federal prison and a fine up to \$100,000. The Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Metzger is prosecuting.

**Teaunya Edwards**, Wichita, Kan., who is charged with two counts of mail fraud and one count of fraud in relation to the commission of a felony.

According to the indictment, Edwards was employed with Via Christi Regional Medical Center, Riverside Health Systems, in June 2004 when a person identified in the indictment

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only as MB sought treatment there and provided personal identification information including her Social Security number. The indictment says that on July 29, 2004, Edwards purchased a Gateway computer and obtained financing by completing an application representing herself to be MB and by providing MB's Social Security number. On July 20, 2004, the indictment says, Edwards submitted an order to Inphonic for a telephone to be delivered to her home in Wichita. She falsely represented herself to be MB and provided Inphonic with MB's Social Security number.

If convicted, she faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison on each of the mail fraud charges and three years in prison on the charge of fraud in relation to a felony. The Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Metzger is prosecuting.

**Danny Zane Sammons**, 44, Walnut, Kan., and **Debra D. Witt**, 37, Carterville, Mo., who are charged with 10 counts involving drug trafficking and firearms violations. The charges include one count of conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine; one count of possession of pseudoephedrine with intent to manufacture methamphetamine; four counts of illegally possessing a firearm after a felony conviction; and four counts of unlawfully possessing a firearm while using a controlled substance. The crimes are alleged to have occurred March 5, 2003, to Feb. 11, 2004, in Neosho County, Kan.

If convicted, they face a maximum penalty of not less than 5 years and not more than 40 years in federal prison, and a fine up to \$2 million, on the conspiracy charge; 20 years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the possession charge; and 10 years and a fine up to \$250,000 on each of the eight firearms charges. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney William Mott is prosecuting.

**Damion Klenk**, 23, Cherokee, Kan., who is charged with one count of arson. According to the indictment, on Sept. 25, 2001, he destroyed by means of fire the Graves-Baird Funeral Home, 114 East Cherokee, Sedan, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of not less than five years and not more than 20 years in federal prison and a fine up to \$250,000. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney David Lind is

prosecuting.

**Arnoldo Najera-Retana**, 30, who is a citizen of Mexico, and who is charged with one count of illegally reentering the United States after being deported following a felony conviction, one count of making a false claim of U.S. citizenship, one count of misusing a Social Security number and two counts of aggravated identity theft. He was found in Wichita, Kan., May 13, 2005.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000 on the illegal reentry charge; three years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of making a false claim of citizenship; at least two years in prison, to run consecutively to other sentences, on each charge of identity theft; and five years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the Social Security charge. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

**Jose Luis Sanchez**, 34, a citizen of Mexico, who is charged with one count of using false documents to be employed in the United States; three counts of aggravated identity theft; four counts of misusing a Social Security number; and one count of using a government-issued identification with intent to defraud the United States. The crimes are alleged to have occurred between Oct. 1, 2003, and April 29, 2005 in Liberal, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of using false documents to be employed in the United States; a mandatory two years in prison to run consecutively to other sentences, as well as a fine up to \$250,000, on each count of aggravated identity theft; five years and a fine up to \$250,000 on each count of misusing a Social Security number; and 15 years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of using a government-issued identification to defraud the United States. The Social Security Administration, office of Inspector General, investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

**Crescencio Clemente Miranda-Miranda**, 30, a citizen of Mexico, who is charged with one count of illegally reentering the United States after being deported; one count of being an

illegal alien in possession of a firearm and ammunition; one count of misusing a Social Security number; and one count of aggravated identity theft. He was found May 25, 2005, in Wichita, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000 on the illegal reentry charge and the firearms charge; five years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of misusing a Social Security number; and a mandatory two years in prison to run consecutively to other sentences, as well as a fine up to \$250,000, on the identity theft charge. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

**Miguel Rubin Lugo-Avila**, 29, a citizen of Mexico, who is charged with one count of using false documents to be employed in the United States; three counts of aggravated identity theft; one count of misusing a Social Security number; and one count of using government-issued documents with intent to defraud the United States. The crimes are alleged to have occurred during October 2002 to May 2005 in Garden City, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of using false documents to be employed; a mandatory two years to run consecutively to any other sentence, and a fine up to \$250,000, on each of three counts of aggravated identity theft; five years and a fine up to \$250,000 on the charge of misusing a Social Security number; and 15 years and a \$250,000 fine on the charge of using a government-issued document to defraud the United States. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed not guilty until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.