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INDICTMENTS RETURNED IN HAMMOND FEDERAL COURT

Hammond, Indiana- The United States Attorney's Office announced that the following Indictments were returned on December 19, 2011:

- Sergio Perez-Uribe, 39, a citizen of Mexico, was charged in an Indictment with illegal reentry of a deported alien. Perez-Uribe was found in the United States in Porter County. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Office of Homeland Security Investigations. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Philip Benson.
- Martin Jonassen, 55, of Elwood, Kansas, was charged in a second superseding Indictment with one count of kidnapping and one count of obstruction of justice which extends the time period in which the defendant is alleged to have tried to intimidate the victim to influence her testimony in an official proceeding. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Portage Police Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Koster.
- Jerome Jerry Scott, 23, of East Chicago, Indiana, was charged in an Indictment with counterfeiting Federal Reserve Notes in the denominations of twenty (\$20) dollars, fifty (\$50) dollars, and one hundred (\$100) dollars. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the United States Secret Service. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall Stewart.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

The United States Attorney's Office emphasized that an Indictment is merely an allegation and that all persons charged are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.