

Navajo, N.M. woman sentenced to 10 years for federal assault, child abuse conviction

Written by gallupsun
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Staff Reports

ALBUQUERQUE – Elmira Curley, 22, who resides in Navajo, N.M., was sentenced May 29 in federal court in Albuquerque to 120 months in prison for her conviction on assault and child abuse charges. Curley will be on supervised release for five years after completing her prison sentence.

The FBI and Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety arrested Curley on July 6, 2016, on an indictment charging her with abusing a child resulting in great bodily harm. The indictment alleged that Curley committed the crime on the Navajo Indian Reservation in McKinley County, N.M., on March 14, 2016.

On Feb. 13, 2018, Curley pled guilty to a two-count felony information charging her with assault resulting in serious bodily harm and child abuse. In her plea agreement, Curley admitted that on March 14, 2016, she committed the crimes of assault and child abuse in Navajo, N.M., which is on the Navajo Indian Reservation.

Curley admitted committing these crimes by putting the legs and feet of a nine-month-old infant into a bathtub of scalding hot water and causing the infant to sustain severe burns.



Curley acknowledged that the infant-victim was hospitalized for several weeks for medical treatment and received skin grafts to repair some of the second- and third-degree burns she sustained as the result of the assault and abuse.

The Gallup, N.M., and Phoenix, Ariz., offices of the FBI and the Window Rock, Ariz., office of the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety investigated this case, which was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicholas J. Marshall.

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