

United States Department of Justice

**For Immediate Release**

August 6, 2010 **United States Attorney's Office**  
**Southern District of California**

## **Hemet, California Couple Arrested for Kidnapping and for Impersonating U.S. Marshal Deputy**

United States Attorney Laura E. Duffy announced the unsealing today of a five-count indictment charging Gregory Raymond Denny, Jr. and his wife, Karen Denny, of Hemet, California, with conspiracy to commit kidnapping and kidnapping while impersonating a federal officer making an arrest. The indictment alleges that the defendants conspired to falsely arrest and subsequently “deport” a Hemet woman to the Philippines. Gregory Denny also faces additional charges. The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested the defendants earlier today in Hemet.

According to the indictment, on January 15, 2010, Gregory and Karen Denny went to the victim’s residence in Hemet, California where she lived with her husband. Gregory Denny falsely announced that he was a law enforcement officer, handcuffed the victim and informed her that he was going to deport her from the United States. Karen Denny also participated in the false arrest. Gregory and Karen Denny then transported the victim to the Murietta Border Patrol Station where Gregory Denny falsely identified himself as a U.S. Marshal and presented a false badge and credentials. Gregory Denny also falsely informed law enforcement that the victim was the subject of a fugitive arrest warrant and asked Border Patrol to take the victim into custody. After Border Patrol agents refused, Gregory and Karen transported the victim to their residence in Hemet, California, where Gregory Denny called the victim’s husband and directed him to buy the victim a plane ticket to the Philippines. A few hours later, the defendants transported the victim to the San Diego airport. Enroute, Gregory Denny informed the victim that if she did not leave the United States he would arrest her and her husband and they would go to jail for five years. Once at the airport, Gregory Denny escorted the victim to the security checkpoint, falsely identified himself as a U.S. Marshal, presented credentials and a badge and informed Transportation Security Administration personnel that he was escorting a prisoner to a flight. Gregory Denny then escorted the victim to the boarding gate area.

The defendants are expected to be in court on Monday, August 9, 2010.

DEFENDANTS Case Number: 10CR3043LAB

Gregory Raymond Denny, Jr. (charged in Counts 1-5) Age: 38

Karen Denny (charged in Counts 1-3) Age: 52

### **SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Count 1: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(c) - Conspiracy to Commit Kidnapping

Count 2: Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1201(a)(1) and 2 - Kidnapping and Aiding and Abetting

Count 3: Title 18, United States Code, Section 913 and 2 - Impersonator Making Arrest or Search and Aiding and Abetting

Count 4: Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1036(a)(4) and (b)(1) - Entry by False Pretenses to the Secure Area of Any Airport

Count 5: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001(a)(3) - False Statement to a Federal Officer

Penalties: up to life in custody, up to five years of supervised release, \$250,000 fine, and \$100 Special Assessment per count.

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES**

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Marshals Service

Department of Homeland Security

Hemet Police Department