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Chief of Police

HOBBS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE Pursuit and Arrest

January 6, 2012 – On Thursday, January 5th, Hobbs Police Officers were involved with three separate pursuits with 32 year old Lorenzo Sanchez of Hobbs. Sanchez was wanted by police for several felony arrest warrants including Aggravated Battery, Shooting at or From a Motor Vehicle, Shooting at a Dwelling, Tampering with Evidence and several other misdemeanors.

At approximately 11:30 am on Thursday, a patrol officer recognized Sanchez in a maroon GMC pickup and initiated a traffic stop due to the outstanding arrest warrants. The pursuit was called off due to excessive speeds. A second pursuit followed later in the afternoon with the same result. At 7:45pm, HPD initiated another pursuit after Sanchez would not stop for a third time. The pursuit exited the city where it was taken over by Lea County Sheriff's Deputies. Sanchez fired a weapon several times out the window of the pickup during the pursuit. The pursuit continued into Texas. Sanchez' pickup tires were spiked as he was attempting to reenter Hobbs. Sanchez stopped the truck and fled on foot into a field. Officers set up a perimeter around the field located at East Marland and 14th Street with the assistance of officers from Lea County Sheriff Office, New Mexico State Police, Eunice Police Department, Gaines County Sheriff's Office, and New Mexico Department of Public Safety. Gaines County, Texas Deputies requested a Texas Department of Public Safety Helicopter from Midland. Ultimately, when the helicopter arrived, Sanchez ran from the field and was taken into custody.

Sanchez was arrested at 10:40pm and charged with Aggravated Assault with Intent to Commit a Felony on a Peace Officer (2nd degree felony), Aggravated Fleeing a Law Enforcement Officer (4th degree felony), Shooting at or From a Motor Vehicle (3rd degree felony) and several misdemeanor charges. He is being held on a \$126,800.00 bond.

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