

Department of Justice Press Release

For Immediate Release
December 15, 2010

United States Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Michigan
Contact: (313) 226-9100

Superseding Indictment Filed in Connection with the Attempted Bombing of Flight 253 on Christmas Day

DETROIT—A grand jury in Detroit, Michigan, returned a superseding indictment against Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab in connection with the attempted bombing of Northwest Airlines Flight 253 on December 25, 2009, near Detroit, Michigan, announced United States Attorney Barbara L. McQuade.

The superseding indictment makes technical changes to the original indictment and adds one additional charge of conspiracy to commit an act of terrorism transcending national boundaries, for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment, and one additional charge of possession of an explosive device in furtherance of an act of terrorism, for which the potential maximum sentence is life. The purpose of the superseding indictment is to frame the charges for trial. All of the counts with the exception of counts one and two were contained in the original indictment returned on January 6, 2010.

The next court date is an arraignment set for tomorrow, December 16, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. before United States District Judge Nancy G. Edmunds.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

[Press Releases](#) | [Detroit Home](#)