

***UPDATE: Body discovered on Gallup's south side identified**

Written by By Babette Herrmann Sun Editor
Friday, 09 October 2015 04:54



****Update Oct. 9, 2015. GPD Capt. Rick White said the man found deceased last Tuesday has been identified as Jasper Eddie Blatchford, 42, from Sierra Vista, Ariz. Unknown cause of death at this time.***

Gallup Police Department Capt. Rick White said officers were dispatched the morning of Oct. 6 “in reference to a person down and out” outside the front entrance to All Star Janitorial Supply on 61 S. Hwy 602.

Officer Kelsey Francisco arrived at All Star about 11:20 am and found the unconscious man shirtless and lying on his back. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

When asked if this death could be related to exposure, White said that it’s too early to speculate on the cause.

Temperatures dipped into the low 50s and high 40s early Tuesday morning, and it had also rained in the area. The man died sometime during the early morning hours, White said.

Detective Charles Wommack said it appears that “no foul play” contributed to the man’s death. He’s being transported to the Office of the Medical Investigator in Albuquerque for an autopsy and where a toxicology test may help determined if alcohol, other substances or exposure were contributing factors in his death.

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The man had no identification on him, but White said there was a dial-up insulin type of prescription for diabetes discovered in a black backpack near the body.

With his identification pending, police gave a description of the Native American man in his mid-30's, who likely stood about 5'6" to 5'7" and wore a pony tail. He was wearing a pair of blue jeans with a black belt; brown hiking-type boots; two shirts – a black muscle shirt under a black T-shirt. He had taken off the shirts prior to his death.

If you have any information related to this case, call GPD at (505) 863-9365.