

Man arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting minor

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THOREAU – A Thoreau area man arrested July 17 for criminal sexual contact with a minor was released on a \$4,000 cash surety bond July 19.

McKinley County Sheriff's Office Deputy Lorenzo Guerrero responded to a call regarding another matter. And when he asked a 16-year-old girl about a domestic incident involving her parents, received what's likely an unexpected response.

The teen told Guerrero that sometime in November Earl Martinez, Jr. forced himself on her.

He had been reportedly drinking when he ran his hands up her thigh and "proceeded to touch her private parts," Guerrero states in his report.

In addition to being charged with criminal sexual contact with a minor, Martinez, 35, was also charged for battery and false imprisonment for the July 17 call.