

ATF offers reward for stolen guns

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In a report released Oct. 17, the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms industry, has announced a combined reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the theft of firearms from Zuni Mountain Pawn, a federal firearms licensee located in Thoreau, N.M.

McKinley County Sheriff's Office Inv. Anthony Ashley said McKinley County Crime Stoppers has added another \$1,000 to the pot, bringing the total in reward monies to \$6,000.

As reported in an August issue of the *Sun*, an unknown suspect burglarized the pawnshop and stole 13 guns. Nine of the firearms were recovered almost immediately by responding officers near the business.

In addition, silver and turquoise jewelry, and cash was also taken. ATF is offering a reward of \$2,500 which is being matched by NSSF to bring the total to \$5,000.

The description of the four guns is as follows:

Llama model Minimax, .45 ACP caliber semiautomatic pistol, with serial number 71-04-0062-05.

Glock model 43, 9 mm Luger caliber semiautomatic pistol, with serial number BDWY230.

Para Ordinance model LDA-PDA, .45 caliber ACP caliber semiautomatic pistol, with serial number P214754.

Kel-Tec model P32, .32 caliber semiautomatic pistol, with serial number unknown.

In a written statement, John Durastanti, Special Agent in Charge for the ATF Phoenix Field

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Division, said the ATF, along with the McKinley County Sheriff's Office and the Crownpoint Police Department are committed to ensuring that communities stay safe, and that those who violate federal firearm laws are held accountable.

"We will relentlessly pursue any criminals who attempt to acquire or distribute stolen weapons and we will utilize all of our resources to ensure that they are held accountable for their violent and dangerous actions," Durastanti said.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to call the ATF 24/7 hotline at 1-888-ATF-TIPS (1-888-283-8477) or send an email to ATFTips@atf.gov

Citizens can also send a text anonymously via the ReportIt mobile app, available through www.reportit.com (link is external), using the ATF Phoenix Field Division as the location.

Information: www.atf.gov

Crime Stoppers: (877) 722-6161. Your name and phone number will remain confidential.

By Tom Hartsock

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