

CAUGHT: Man wanted for rape found at local hotel

Written by Staff Reports

Friday, 09 February 2018 08:49



After scouring the area for alleged rapist Julian Martinez, who had a warrant for his arrest signed by a judge Feb. 6, Gallup police received a tip that he was staying at the Red Roof Inn Hotel.

Police quickly closed in and arrested Martinez Feb. 8 for an alleged rape that occurred at a different hotel, about a mile west of Red Roof Inn.

Martinez, 32, has been charged with three counts of criminal sexual penetration in the first degree using force or coercion and causing great bodily harm or mental anguish and one count of false imprisonment.

Gallup Police Capt. Marinda Spencer said Thursday morning that police officers searched throughout Gallup Wednesday night but were unable to find him.

The alleged victim called police the evening of Feb. 4 from the front desk of the TravelCenters of America, 3404 W. Highway 66, Spencer said, and reported the rapes.

Spencer said the victim told police that she had been drinking with Martinez earlier that evening and they had gone to the motel room where he became upset because they ran out of liquor. He then allegedly attacked her and kept her from leaving the room.

After the third rape, Spencer said the victim was able to escape and make her way to the front desk.

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She suffered bruising to her left eye and abrasions to her right eye and knee, as well as various scratches, Spencer said.

Martinez is being held at the McKinley County Adult Detention Center on no bond, according to the arrest warrant.