Written by Staff Reports Friday, 25 January 2019 04:55







## **SEARCH FOR TWO ASSAILANTS**

Jan. 11, Gallup

Gallup Police are looking for two men who reportedly attacked two Gallup teenage girls on Jan. 11.

The two girls told police they were walking eastbound on Aztec Avenue about 2 pm. when they were approached by two men who began hitting them for no reason. One girl said she was punched several times in the face while the other said she was hit twice before the men got into their vehicle and drove away.

Neither girl said they knew either their attackers. Police searched the area for the suspect

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vehicle but were unable to find any suspects matching the girls' descriptions.

### **HOT CHECK PRESSURE**

### Jan. 8, Gallup

A Gallup man was arrested for fraud after he tried to cash a check that was altered.

Police were called to Duke City, 1512 East Hwy 66, about 4 pm on Jan. 8 because of a report of a man trying to cash a fraudulent check for \$700.

Paul Estrada Jr., 30, told Gallup Police that his someone else had pressured him into trying to cash the check.

Estrada was still at the store when police arrived. He told police on his own that he knew the check was fraudulent and that he had gotten it from someone else. He said he did not know where that person got it. He added that that person pressured him into trying to cash it.

Police later found out that the numbers on the check had been altered. Only Estrada was arrested and charged for the crime.

### **PARANOIA LEADS TO BUST**

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### Jan. 7, Gallup

Taylor Johnson, 28, of St. Michaels was arrested on Jan. 7 for possession of methamphetamine after he called Gallup police and told them that someone was out to kill him.

Gallup Patrolman Luke Martin said he was dispatched to a location on the 1200 block of East Highway 66 in connection with a man who said someone was trying to kill him. When he got to the site, he found Johnson, who appeared to be incoherent and who had to be asked questions several times before he answered them.

He said he was running from some people. He denied that he had been taking drugs but said it was possible that someone had tried to stick him with a needle. He was taken to the Gallup Indian Medical Center for a medical evaluation. Martin said when he was searched for his own safety, police found him to be in possession of an unspecified amount of meth.

## **SHOTS FIRED**

## Jan. 3, Gallup

GPD Patrolman Adrian Quetawki said he was on patrol about 10 pm on Jan. 3 near Sixth Street when he was approached by a man who said he heard a loud bang.

Quetawki said he searched the area and found a brass casing but no indication that any building in the area had been hit.

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The casing was placed into evidence.

The following morning, another police officer was dispatched to a house on South Sixth Street where the homeowner reported hearing shots fired the night before. He reported hearing several shots at the scene.

He added that it sounded to him like someone in a vehicle going south had fired some shots and about two minutes later, he heard shots fired from a vehicle that sounded as if it was going south.

Police did find two casings on the sidewalk near his home. The matter is under investigation.

In another case on Jan. 4, police responded to a call from a man, on the 200 block of West Lincoln Street, who also reported shots fired.

The complainant said two men showed up to the window of his bedroom and knocked on the window. They left and a couple of minutes later, when the man reported hearing eight shots.

He described the two men as being short and wearing masks. He said he had no idea who they were or why they came to his house.

Police said they found several holes on the north side of the building, some in the walls and some in the windows. They said they also found eight shell casings and a bullet.

## **ASSAULTER ARRESTED**

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## Dec. 31, Gallup

A Gamerco man is facing assault and battery charges after reportedly going into a Gallup business and attacking office personnel and patients.

GPD Policeman Harland Soseeah said he was dispatched to the Eye Associates, 311 East Nizhoni Blvd, about 11:53 am Dec. 31.

He said he first talked to a receptionist who said that a man, later identified as Damon Williams, 23, came into the business and sat down. The receptionist said when she asked if she could help, the man became upset and started yelling and cursing at her. She said he also punched her and started throwing things at her that he found on her desk.

She said she retreated to another room as two other staff members showed up because of all of the noise.

One of the staff members said a patient who had come for services went up to the man and tried to calm him down only to have the man attack him before he left the business. That patient was later treated for a possible broken nose and had a minor seizure at the hospital.

When police arrived, they could not find the suspect anywhere in the area; however, later, staff at the Gallup Indian Medical Center reported an intoxicated patient who was behaving combatively. That man was Williams, and when police took a picture of him, he was identified by people at Eye Associates as the man who caused the problems there.

Williams was arrested and charged with aggravated battery, assault on health personnel, damage to private property and trespass.