

Parking lot stabbing leaves one man dead

Written by gallupsun
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Sheriff's Office: "We need witnesses to come forward" - Undersheriff James Mairoano



One man is dead after an alleged parking lot fight at T&R Feed and Rope Center turned deadly Feb. 12.

The suspect, now identified as Nelbert Billy, 20, of Manuelito, N.M., was initially arrested on Navajo Nation land for an unrelated charge. He has since been arrested and charged in McKinley County with one open count of murder.

McKinley County Sheriff's office deputies responded to the "fight call" at 2:30 pm.

Undersheriff James Maiorano said before deputies arrived on scene they were notified that Delbert Billy, 41, of Manuelito, N.M., was sitting in a grey pickup truck in the parking lot. When deputies arrived, medical personnel were already tending to the victim.

Witnesses to the fight saw Billy leaving the scene and followed him.

"With their help the suspect was apprehended by Sheriff's deputies on Navajo Nation land," Maiorano said. "The suspect was turned over to Navajo Police who arrested him on unrelated charges."

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The victim, Delbert Billy, later died at the hospital. Sheriff's office officials are trying to confirm whether the two men are related.

"At this time, it is unclear what led to the altercation and subsequent stabbing however the Sheriff's Office is diligently investigating this case," he said.

Although there were witnesses that came forward and helped to apprehend the suspect, the investigation is ongoing.

And investigators need more witnesses to come forward to help complete the puzzle. Call (505) 863-1410 and ask to speak with Investigator Anthony Ashley.

This is a developing story. Check Gallup Sun's website and Facebook page for updates.

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