N.M. man arrested for officer assault

Written by Staff Reports
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A Mexican Springs man was arrested after reportedly assaulting a peace officer on New Year's Eve.

Joshuah Povatah, 28, of Mexican Springs, N.M., was booked into McKinley County Detention Center — the same place that he allegedly assaulted an officer.

Povatah arrived at the jail just after 4 p.m. to ask if he had a bench warrant out for his arrest. The officer replied that Povatah could check on that himself.

Povatah then swung at the officer with a closed fist before heading for the doors that lead to the jail itself. The officer pepper sprayed him and "kneed [Povatah] in the face because he was combative." He placed Povatah in handcuffs and waited for police to arrive for the suspect's arrest.

After receiving medical clearance, Povatah was transported back to the detention center and booked.

He was released on his own recognizance.

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