Written by Staff Reports Friday, 02 July 2021 06:36





Norman Begay June 16, 3:56 pm Aggravated DWI

McKinley County Sheriff's Deputy Frank Villa Jr. was stationed in the median of U.S. Highway 491 near the 6.5 mile marker when he clocked a vehicle traveling 79 mph in a 55-mph zone. He turned south onto the highway to follow the vehicle, which turned into the parking lot of T&R Market, 667 U.S. Hwy. 491, and stopped.

Villa pulled behind the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. He met the driver, Norman Begay, 30, of Window Rock, Ariz., and noted the smell of alcohol coming from the vehicle once the window was rolled down. Norman said he was not in any rush and had not drunk anything prior to driving. He was told to remove his sunglasses, after which Villa saw he had bloodshot, watery eyes.

Begay then admitted to drinking one pint of vodka about an hour earlier before leaving Window Rock. He agreed to take the standard field sobriety tests, but failed. He agreed to give a portable breath sample, which turned out to be .18. He was placed under arrest and transported to the sheriff's office for a second breath test, where he posted samples of .20 and .19.

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Villa then transported Begay to McKinley County Adult Detention Center for booking. He has since been released on his own recognizance.

Dorian Allison March 16, 10:37 pm DWI (Third)

New Mexico State Police Officer Everson Cruz was patrolling near U.S. Highway 491 when he saw a vehicle traveling on the wrong side of the highway. He ran the license plate and found the registered owner had a suspended license.

Cruz pulled the vehicle over and met with the driver, Dorian Allison, 23, of Yatahey, who said he was coming home from work. Cruz told Allison he noted a smell of alcohol or marijuana in the vehicle and asked him if he had consumed either. Allison admitted he had smoked a bowl during his lunch break earlier.

Allison agreed to take the standard field sobriety tests, but failed. He was placed under arrest and when he was being put into Cruz's unit, he was found to have a small bag of a substance he admitted was marijuana.

Cruz transported Allison to the local state police office for a breath test, but the results were not indicated in the report. Allison was then transported to Rehoboth Christian Medical Hospital for a blood draw and finally taken to McKinley County Adult Detention Center where he was booked for a third DWI, marijuana possession, driving with a suspended license, and driving on the wrong side of the road.

He was released on his own recognizance.

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Marissa Marquez Aug. 23, 2020, 2:27 am Aggravated DWI (Third)

Gallup Patrolman Patrick Largo was dispatched to Speedway East, 3440 E. Hwy. 66, in reference to a drunk driver. Public Service Officer Vincent Pete said an intoxicated suspect had gotten into a gray SUV and traveled west past the Zecca Plaza.

Largo saw the suspect vehicle traveling north on Miyamura Overpass and turned to follow it. The vehicle swerved over the median and traveled onto East Aztec Avenue. Largo followed, eventually catching up to the vehicle and conducting a traffic stop near the intersection of East Aztec Avenue and Burke Drive.

He met the driver, Marissa Marquez, 42, of Gamerco, and asked for her information. In addition to having trouble finding her ID card, Largo noted Marquez had bloodshot eyes and slurred speech. There was also an open 12-oz. can of Michelob Ultra in the middle console of the SUV.

Marquez agreed to take the standard field sobriety tests, but failed and was placed under arrest. Largo tried to contact her family to pick up the vehicle, but received no response. He then transported her to Gallup Police Department for a breath test, where she posted samples of .23 and .22.

She was then taken to McKinley County Adult Detention Center and booked.

Anthony Marianito Feb. 8, 2020, 11:04 pm DWI

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New Mexico State Police Officer Devin Largo was patrolling State Road 566 when he witnessed a silver Chevy passenger car fail to maintain its lane in front of him. He activated his unit's emergency lights and conducted a traffic stop near Mile Marker 1 in Church Rock.

Largo met the driver, Anthony Marianito, 35, of Church Rock, and immediately noted a smell of alcohol. Marianito's eyes were also bloodshot, according to the report. Before he agreed to take the standard field sobriety tests, Marianito said he drank one pint of unidentified alcohol prior to driving.

Marianito failed the alternative tests and was arrested based on Largo's investigation. He declined to give a breath sample and asked to perform a blood draw instead. Largo transported him to Rehoboth Medical Center for the draw. The results were not detailed.

He was taken to McKinley County Adult Detention Center and released into the custody of the jailer on duty. The charges listed were DWI, failure to maintain a lane, and having an open container in a vehicle.

Cheryl Begay July 10, 2019 Aggravated DWI (Third)

A collision resulting in bodily injury led to Gallup Patrolman Caleb Kleeberger being dispatched to the area of Todd Drive and Dairy Drive. Officers had located the vehicle heading south on Boardman Drive and it was stopped on State Road 602 when Kleeberger arrived and met the driver.

Cheryl Begay, 39, had told officers she consumed two beers at about 9:30 that morning. Kleeberger noted that she had bloodshot eyes, swayed when she stood, and smelled of alcohol.

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She agreed to take the standard field sobriety tests, but failed.

Begay was charged with a third aggravated DWI and leaving the scene of an accident.