

Zuni man pleads guilty to murder in Indian Country

Written by gallupsun

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ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Brodie Coonsis, 28, of Zuni, N.M., and an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Zuni, pleaded guilty on Dec. 27 in federal court to second-degree murder in Indian Country.

According to the plea agreement and other court documents, Coonsis shot and killed John Doe on Feb. 26 at John Doe's residence in Zuni. Coonsis, who had been using drugs and was upset with John Doe, travelled to the victim's house on the Pueblo of Zuni. After John Doe opened the door, Coonsis fired his shotgun four times as he followed the victim up the stairs, eventually killing him.

Coonsis is currently in custody pending his sentencing, which has not been scheduled. He faces up to life in prison.

The Gallup Resident Agency of the FBI investigated this case with assistance from the Zuni Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicholas Marshall is prosecuting the case.