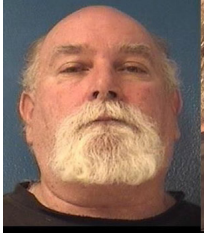


Former bail bondsman busted for trafficking

Written by Staff Report
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A five month long, joint investigation between McKinley County Sheriff's Office and the FBI resulted in the arrest of former bail bondsman Billie Cotton.

MCSO lead narcotics investigator Pat Salazar said the the arrest and search warrants were served at Cotton's home on 404 Zane St. at 6:45 am Oct. 12.

"We found six stolen firearms and three altered firearms," he said.

Salazar said the altered firearms were immediately taken into evidence He explained that adding a silencer or altering a gun to make it to fire faster are common modifications.

Cotton, 58, was booked into the McKinley County Adult Detention Center for trafficking and federal gun charges. He's currently being held in federal custody in Albuquerque without bond.