

Suspect wanted in downtown stabbing

Gallup police are on the lookout for Darrell Desiderio Sr. of Twin Lakes, who is wanted for aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

Gallup Police Department Capt. Marinda Spencer said Desiderio, 39, is a suspect in a downtown stabbing that sent Andrew Garcia to a local hospital last week.

“An arrest warrant has been issued for [Desiderio],” Spencer said. “The investigation remains open.”

The incident occurred Aug. 18 near Camille’s Sidewalk Café at 306 S. Second St.

GPD Lt. Rosanne Morrissette said Desiderio allegedly stabbed Garcia up to four times. Garcia was in stable condition as of Aug. 22.

According to an eyewitness account listed in the arrest warrant, around 9 am Aug. 18, Garcia confronted Desiderio in front of the McKinley County Courthouse about stealing his brother’s backpack at Trade Mark Square.

When the argument grew heated, Desiderio started searching his pockets, when a woman by

the name of “Charlene” possibly “Charlene Hannaweeka” handed him a knife.

Desiderio then stabbed Garcia and fled from the scene. He was last seen wearing a white tank top with a white shirt, and blue jean shorts.

Garcia was flown to an Albuquerque hospital with life-threatening injuries. He was stabbed twice in the liver.

Spencer said GPD Detective Neil Yazzie obtained the arrest warrant for Desiderio on Aug. 19. A preliminary bond amount has been set at $2,000, Spencer confirmed. The arrest warrant lists a $10,000 cash only bond.

An administrator at the McKinley County Adult Detention Center said Desiderio was last in jail in January of this year. At that time, he was jailed for driving without a license.

By Bernie Dotson and Babette Herrmann