

A Gallup man has been charged with shoplifting after he robbed an Albuquerque Dick's Sporting Goods.

Albuquerque police officers were dispatched to the store at 3550 NM. Hwy. 528 around 2:15 pm Feb. 8. Two men had reportedly robbed the store, and one of them was Fernando Julian Baeza, 39, from Gallup.

While one of the officers was driving to the scene he was informed over the radio that the men were last seen in a dirt lot behind the apartments located at 10131 Coors Blvd. NW.

Once the two men were detained, the Dicks Sporting Goods store manager arrived at the scene and confirmed that the two men were the ones who had stolen from his store.

The manager said the two men had come into the store at the same time and picked up multiple items, "showing no regard for the size nor the price of products."

The manager said the men avoided employees who asked if they needed any assistance, and then they walked out the front doors. He also noted that he saw the men put the stolen items into their bags once they were outside the store. He provided police a video that showed the shoplifting incident.

In total the two men stole about $665 worth of merchandise.

According to the police report, Baeza had two warrants out for his arrest. He was arrested for the warrants and for shoplifting. A status conference concerning this case is scheduled for March 13.

Staff Reports