

## Gallup Police arrest alleged attempted rapist

Written by Staff Reports  
Friday, 22 March 2024 00:00

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A man is facing charges of criminal sexual contact in the fourth degree after he allegedly tried to rape a young girl.

Multiple Gallup Police Officers were dispatched to Hillcrest Trailer Park after someone called Metro Dispatch to report a burglary around 10 pm on March 13.

According to her report, when Officer Iris Pinero arrived at the scene she noticed a broken window near the front of the trailer. A voice called to Pinero from the front door, which was slightly ajar. A woman walked out of the front door and identified herself as the victim's sister. She said that "one of her homies" owned the trailer. The person was later identified as Jayson Russell.

The woman said that Russell, 32, had left the residence, and that she was angry with him because he tried to rape her sister. The woman explained that her four kids and her sister were in the trailer, but they were waiting for a ride to come pick them up.

According to the victim's sister, the alleged attempted rape occurred about 30 minutes before police showed up.

Pinero was able to talk to the victim, who said she'd been sleeping on the couch when she felt someone touching her "in the wrong places." The victim explained that she couldn't get up or yell for help because Russell was on top of her, and he was much bigger than her. Russell allegedly already had his pants down and he'd also removed the victim's pants and underwear. The victim's age was not mentioned in the police report.

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The victim said her nephew saw what was happening so he woke up his mother, and she was able to chase Russell out of the trailer.

The victim's sister admitted that she, Russell, and a couple other friends had been drinking that day. She said she'd known Russell for "quite some time" and that he'd allowed them all to spend the night at his place. The victim's sister also said she had seen Russell try to flirt with her sister earlier on in the day and she'd tried to interfere by telling him "it's not cool."

She said she'd been asleep on the same couch as her sister when her son woke her up. When the victim's sister woke up, she reportedly saw Russell pulling up his pants.

Pinero asked the victim if Russell had put his "private part inside hers" and the victim said he was "trying to get to it."

The victim's sister said some other guys had picked up Russell in a black Malibu car. As Pinero was escorting the victim, her sister, and her four kids to another location Sgt. Terrance Peyketewa found the black Malibu that was described by the victim's sister and found Russell in the backseat.

He was placed under arrest and is now facing the aforementioned charges. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 27.

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