

Aggravated robbery turns into pot bust

Written by Gallupsun Staff
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Weapons pulled outside the Gallup Indian Medical Center

Staff Reports

On June 21, shortly after noon, Gallup police responded to a call at the Gallup Indian Medical Center after an employee said there was a male who pulled a firearm and demanded money from someone outside the building.

The male with the weapon was described as Native American, about six feet tall, with a thin build and short hair, wearing a black and white checkered long sleeve shirt and blue jeans.

Police talked to the victim; also a male. That person, later identified as Elijah Ivan Touchine, of Churchrock, said the man with the gun was Isaiah. That was the only name he knew him by. Touchine said the two were to meet for a pot sale, but that when Isaiah pulled a handgun tucked into his front belt line, he feared for his life and gave him all his money.

Also at the scene was Geniva Alvarez, 19, of Churchrock. She and Touchine were interviewed by investigators.

There were no shots fired and no injuries reported. However, after Alvarez said that her partner accepted money for marijuana, the two were charged with distribution of marijuana, and conspiracy, two fourth degree felonies.

Isaiah was not located or identified.