Written by By Bernie Dotson Sun Correspondent Friday, 21 April 2017 03:59



UPDATE: IN CUSTODY

Man faces forgery, identity theft charges

A Gallup man, wanted on theft of identity and forgery charges, is on the wanted list of Gallup police, according to information obtained from Magistrate Court. An arrest warrant was signed April 19.

According to a criminal complaint on the matter, Josh Cucciardi, 33, is the primary suspect connected to a series of forged checks that were cashed at Perry Null Trading Company and which later cleared at Pinnacle Bank in Gallup. The checks did not belong to Cucciardi and were written out in the name of another person. *The Gallup Sun* is not revealing the name of the person in which the checks were written out to.

Cucciardi's last known address is 208 E. Maple Avenue in Gallup. Cucciardi is a Gallup native with family that lives in the city.

The person that the check was written out to informed investigators that the residence of his parents was burglarized a couple of years ago and this may be how Cucciardi got ahold of the personal banking information. The victim met with police and provided signature samples in the presence of an attorney. The signatures did not match.

Gallup police looking for Josh Cucciardi

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A warrant was served on an associate of Cucciardi at that time revealed several copies of identification cards, and modified blank and filled out checks, according to the criminal complaint. Gallup police have evidence that Cucciardi indeed cashed at least one check at Perry Null's using an altered ID.

The bond amount issued by Magistrate Court is \$10,000. Lt. Roseanne Morrissette, public information officer with the Gallup Police Department, classified the situation as white collar crime. Morrissette said it's a matter of time before police apprehend Cucciardi.

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