



NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Police

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FRAUD ARREST INVOLVING FORMER TPD OFFICER

Within the last several weeks, employees of the Tucson Police Department brought to light concerns regarding Benjamin Gaballa (24 years old), an individual terminated from employment with the City of Tucson Police Department in August of 2013. The concerns were forwarded to detectives from the Special Investigations Division of the Tucson Police Department, as the information indicated that Mr. Gaballa was thought be in possession of prohibited or illegal weapons. As such, the detectives initiated an investigation in an attempt to ascertain whether or not Mr. Gaballa was in possession of any prohibited weapons. As a result of their investigation, the detectives obtained a search warrant for a search of Mr. Gaballa's residence on the afternoon of November 19, 2013. He was located at a business on the early evening of November 19, 2013 and advised of the search warrant service at his residence. During the service of the search warrant, police personnel observed a questionable motorcycle parked in the garage of the residence. Personnel from the Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force responded and initiated a subsequent investigation regarding the status of the motorcycle. That investigation revealed that Mr. Gaballa had reported the motorcycle stolen to the Pima County Sheriff's Office in June of 2012. Ultimately, as a result of the investigation regarding the reportedly stolen motorcycle that was found in Mr. Gaballa's garage, he was arrested for 1 count of Fraudulent Schemes and Artifices, 1 count of Forgery, and 1 count of Defrauding Secured Creditors, all felony offenses. He was transported and booked into the Pima County Jail. The investigation regarding Mr. Gaballa's possible possession of prohibited weapons continues. A booking photograph of Mr. Gaballa is included below.



Benjamin Gaballa

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.



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