



# Roswell Police Department

## NEWS RELEASE



*For Immediate Release: December 15, 2023*

### Three more teens arrested in double-homicide case from 2022

**Another teen was previously arrested nine days after the Cahoon Park shooting**

**Roswell, N.M.** — Three teenagers were arrested Friday (Dec. 15) in connection with the 2022 murders of two other local teens who were shot while in a vehicle at Cahoon Park in west Roswell. Two of the teens arrested Friday, along with another teen arrested nine days after the killing, are accused of firing the fatal shots. The fourth teen to be arrested is accused of directing the other teens to rob the two victims of a gun they possessed, thus initiating the incident that turned deadly.

Arrested Friday morning were Carlos Gallegos, 15 (14 at the time of the crimes) and Damian Romero, 15 (14 at the time of the crimes). They were found in a house in the 600 block of Redwood Street. Following those arrests, which were made without incident, David Salas-Silva, 18 (16 at the time of the crimes) turned himself in at the police department Friday afternoon. Each of those arrested Friday is charged, in warrants issued Wednesday (Dec. 13), with two open counts (the criminal degree to be determined by a jury) of murder, and one count each of armed robbery, conspiracy to commit armed robbery, and unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon (state law sets the age requirement at 19 to possess a gun).

Also facing those same charges in connection with the April 16, 2022, shootings is Jayvin Montoya, 16 (15 at the time of the crimes), who was arrested April 25, 2022, in Ruidoso. He has remained incarcerated on pre-trial detention since then.

The victims of the shootings were Cameron Luna, 15, and Jorge Armendariz, 16.



Carlos Gallegos



Damian Romero



David Salas-Silva

The investigation by the Roswell Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division, which included ballistic (related to bullets and their casings) and DNA testing performed by FBI and U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives labs, concluded Montoya and Romero, who are half-brothers, and Gallegos were the three shooters.

Investigators believe Salas-Silva put in motion what turned into the fatal encounter by contacting Montoya and telling him to rob Luna and Armendariz of a gun and Salas-Silva would give him a gun in return. Although Salas-Silva did not participate in person at the scene of the crimes, he allegedly orchestrated the robbery, during which the murders occurred. So as a co-conspirator, he can face the same charges as the principle participants of the crimes.

Investigators believe Luna and Armendariz went to the park to buy a gun from another individual and had completed that transaction shortly before Montoya, Romero and Gallegos arrived in another vehicle. Investigators believe the seller of the gun had left before the arrival of the three shooters.

The April 16, 2022, shootings occurred around 5 p.m. near the tennis courts on Riverside Drive in Cahoon Park. The investigation found that multiple gunshots were fired into a parked vehicle occupied by Luna and Armendariz. Both victims died at the scene. The suspects fled after the shootings, driving away in the same vehicle in which they arrived.

Gallegos and Romero will be held at juvenile detention facilities in other counties. (Chaves County does not have a juvenile detention facility.) Salas-Silva will be held at the Chaves County Detention Center since he is now 18 and legally considered an adult.

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