

# *Pueblo County* **Sheriff**

David J. Lucero



## News Release

For Immediate Release  
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### **Deputies Quick Actions Thwarts Possible Armed Robbery in Pueblo West**

**Pueblo, CO:** Quick response by Pueblo County Sheriff's deputies Sunday afternoon likely thwarted an armed robbery attempt and led to the swift arrest of a 26-year-old man who was already wanted for several outstanding warrants.

A deputy said he had stopped at the Loaf N Jug, 14 W. Spaulding, at about 4 p.m. for a break when an employee of the store notified him that a man and woman who had just entered the store and stole laundry detergent. The employee said the man returned to the store where he took out a gun from his pants but then quickly left the store. Another witness reported seeing the man put on a mask and he and the woman crossed the street, walking toward another business. The witness said they thought the two were going to rob the business.

The deputy went outside to look for the suspects and saw a man and woman matching the description of the two standing across the street. As the deputy approached, they took off going in opposite directions. The deputy quickly apprehended the woman. The man, later identified as Matthew J. Arnette, ran back across the street toward the Loaf 'N Jug and into a residential area. Another deputy was in the area and located Arnette and took him into custody without incident.

A gun matching the description of the one Arnette had on him earlier, was found in a trash can outside the Loaf 'N Jug. Arnette had a protection order restraining him from possession weapons. He was arrested for menacing with a deadly weapon, possession of a weapon by a previous offender, a protection order violation and the five outstanding warrants for contempt of court. He was booked into the Pueblo County Jail. The woman was not arrested; however, charges could be forthcoming.

"I want to commend the deputies for their quick action in responding to this incident and quickly locating and arresting this wanted individual," said Pueblo County Sheriff David J. Lucero. "I also commend the employees of Loaf 'N Jug for their awareness and quick thinking. They, along with our deputies, likely prevented another crime from being committed."

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