



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**
Jose M. Sablan Building, Civic Center Susupe
P.O. Box 500791 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: 670-664-9001 (24 Hours) Facsimile: 670-664-9019



Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Arnold I. Palacios
Lieutenant Governor

Robert A. Guerrero
Commissioner

PRESS RELEASE
October 5, 2021

TO: CNMI Media Partners

FROM: DPS Public Information Officer

SUBJECT: Two individuals arrested for robbery incident in San Antonio, Saipan

On Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at about 1:28 a.m., DPS received a 911 call reporting a suspicious vehicle driving around and parking in front of an apartment complex in the village of San Antonio, Saipan. Officers were dispatched to the scene.

At the scene, officers met with a female victim who stated that she had just been robbed of her brown Coach purse along Laiguan Avenue. The victim told police that the suspect who grabbed her purse was described as a tall male individual wearing dark clothing with a white mask covering his face before fleeing the scene. Another witness told police that a dark-colored Mazda 3 sedan bearing the license plate AFM 561, picked up an individual matching the description before fleeing the scene.

A description of the vehicle and suspects were given to dispatch who relayed the information to all units. Minutes later police spotted the vehicle on the main road. Police conducted a violator stop and advised the two (2) occupants to step out of the vehicle. Upon securing the driver; Raymond Palacios and the back seat passenger; George Taitano Lieto, Jr. officers saw a brown Coach purse described earlier inside the vehicle. Once the purse was positively identified as belonging to the victim, both individuals were arrested and transported to the Department of Corrections (DOC) where they were booked and detained.

On the same day, based on information and evidence gathered the Honorable Judge Joseph N. Camacho signed and issued a Rule-5 for Raymond Palacios and George Taitano Lieto, Jr. for the charges of robbery and conspiracy with bail for each defendant set at \$100,000 USD.

The Department of Public Safety would like to remind the public to be diligent if a person you know suspiciously has a lump sum of money, designer belongings, or expensive items.

If you have any information on any robbery incidents, or if you have any knowledge of the whereabouts of any items mentioned in previous press releases, please call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous please call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. **Crimestoppers pays up to \$1,000.00 for any information leading to an arrest.**

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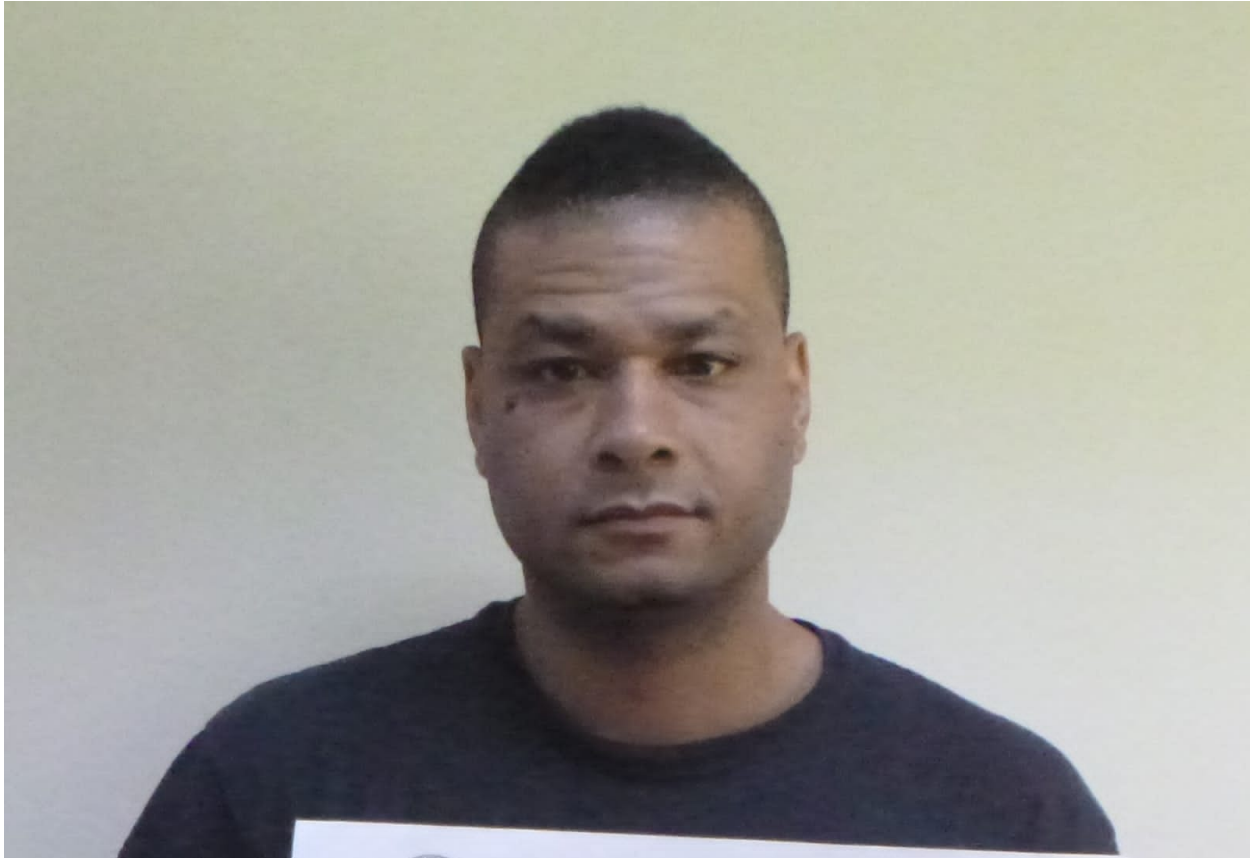
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Name: George Taitano Lieto Jr.
DOB: June 4, 1984



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Name: Raymond Palacios

DOB: May 22, 1985

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