

Man Accused of Threatening Judge

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A Rio Rancho man was arrested by sheriff's deputies Wednesday for allegedly threatening a Bernalillo County District Court judge in his divorce case, according to a Metro Court arrest warrant.

Richard J. Hermann, 46, was charged with harassment, a misdemeanor, for allegedly sending two threatening e-mails and a voice mail to State District Court Judge Nan Nash in Albuquerque, according to the warrant.

Nash received a forwarded

e-mail Monday and a second one Tuesday.

"Hermann makes reference (in the second e-mail) to owning a gun and would cause great harm to Judge Nash and law enforcement officers," said John McKenna, a Bernalillo County sheriff's deputy, in the arrest warrant.

The e-mail also said he knew the judge's home address and the names of family members, McKenna said.

The caller in the voice mail, who identified himself as Hermann, "advised Judge Nash to not make any 'rash decisions' and to be careful, stating that he was not about to do anything rash unless provoked,"

McKenna said.

According to family court records, Nash was the judge who presided over Hermann's divorce proceedings filed in 2004.

Hermann claims his 1992 prenuptial agreement signed by his fiancée before their marriage in Florida was never enforced by the court.

He said he spent \$100,000 fighting the case, according to family court records.

Sheriff's spokesman Lt. David Knowles said the case has been turned over to the FBI.

Hermann's bail was set at \$25,000, according to the arrest warrant.