

DNA tests result in Arizona rape arrest

by UPI

CHANDLER, Ariz. - Police in Arizona say DNA testing led them to arrest a 39-year-old construction worker they believe is the so-called "Chandler Rapist." Chandler Police Chief Sherry Kiyler said a local construction worker going by the name Ricardo Lopez was in custody and charged with raping several young girls in the area during the last two years, The Arizona Republic reported Sunday. "We are convinced that this suspect is responsible for the multiple assaults that have been committed in our community," Kiyler said Saturday. Police allege Lopez, who was arrested Friday, is actually Santana Batiz Aceves and that he committed the rapes while working for an area construction company. Computer records show Batiz Aceves entered the United States from Mexico illegally in 1988, but was deported twice for drug offenses. Lopez was arrested after DNA testing on evidence from related crime scenes allegedly revealed a genetic match with a DNA sample taken from the rape suspect, the Republic reported.

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