



**SLIDELL POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
*Nationally Accredited*



**Public Information Office**

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For Immediate Release

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Suspect Captured hiding in Refrigerator**

After running from police twice to avoid being arrested, Rocarldo Weiters of Slidell was arrested by St. Tammany Parish Deputies after they located him hiding inside a refrigerator.

The series of events all started on Saturday morning around 2 am in Tangipahoa Parish. A Louisiana State Trooper from Troop L stopped a black GMC Yukon for suspicion that its driver was intoxicated. As the Trooper was handcuffing the suspect, a scuffle between the two of them ensued. The driver was able to break free and re-enter his vehicle and flee from the Trooper. After the Trooper re-entered his vehicle he had already lost site of the Yukon. Then several hours later at approximately 12:40 pm a St. Tammany Parish Deputy saw a black GMC Yukon disobey a stop sign on Oak Harbor Blvd. and as he attempted to stop the Yukon, it fled. After a brief chase the driver abandoned the vehicle and ran from Deputies. As other Deputies arrived they were able to determine that the driver was hiding inside a nearby apartment. Deputies entered the apartment and located the driver hiding inside the refrigerator. When he was taken into custody he was still wearing the Troopers handcuff. After speaking to him about why he had the handcuff on his wrist he advised them what happened hours before.

The Slidell Police were notified of the arrest since the suspect was driving a Yukon that possibly was used in an Armed Robbery. Slidell Detectives then interviewed Weiters and told Detectives several different stories, which did not implicate him in the robbery of the Texaco on Robert Blvd. These stories lead to the serving of several search warrants in an attempt to locate evidence of the robbery. Along the way Detectives also located some cooperating witnesses to this case. After more questioning, Weiters finally admitted that he was the driver of the get-a-way vehicle during the Texaco robbery and that Gary Gilmore was the suspect that entered the store and performed the robbery. The Detectives, knowing that Gilmore had ties to Mississippi, began to contact police agencies including the Waveland Mississippi Police Department. While speaking to a Detective with Waveland Police, Slidell Detectives learned that Waveland Police had a similar robbery in their area. The video tape of that robbery showed that Weiters entered the store first and asked the clerk a question and then exited only to re-enter with Gilmore, who was armed with the same type of weapon used in the Slidell Robbery. Both suspects then demanded money and as they fled the store the gun Gilmore was carrying discharged. Both men were wearing camouflage clothing and had ski mask over their faces. A search of the Yukon revealed that the mask used in the Slidell robbery was hidden inside the vehicles console. Waveland Police are still investigating and expect to file charges on the two suspects. The gun has not yet been recovered and Slidell Detectives will continue to interview Weiters about its location.

At around 7:00 pm on Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup>, The Slidell Police Department received a teletype from the Tyler Texas Police Department that they had Gary Gilmore in custody, after confirming that the warrants were still active and that Slidell would extradite, Gilmore was taken into custody by Tyler Police. Weiters is currently being held in the St. Tammany Parish Jail with No Bond. Gilmore is currently being held in the Smith County Texas Jail awaiting an extradition hearing.

**Arrested Subjects:** *Gary A. Gilmore, age 26 of last known address of 121 W. 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Covington, LA, he is currently awaiting extradition from Smith County, Texas*  
*Rocarldo R. Weiters, age 23 of 645 Spring Branch, Slidell, LA was arrested by Slidell Police for Armed Robbery and Armed Robbery with the use of a Firearm.*

For a photo of both suspects please visit our web site at [www.slidell.la.us](http://www.slidell.la.us) click on “Police Department” then click on “Press Release”.

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