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Shooting is break in Texas slaying



FBI agents look for evidence where the body of Megan Leann Holden, 19, was found outside Stanton, in West Texas. She was kidnapped from Tyler.

Robber pulls gun at Bowie store, but worker is quicker on the draw

By Ignacio Ibarra
Associated Press

The shooting of a robber at a Bowie RV park led to a man's arrest Friday in the abduction of a woman in East Texas that was captured on a surveillance camera at the Wal-Mart where she had just ended her shift. The 19-year-old woman's body was found later.

Johnny Lee Williams, 34, was arrested about 7 a.m. Thursday morning at a Wilcox hospital after being shot by an employee of an Bowie RV park. Investigators say he attempted to rob at gunpoint.

He was being held on a \$1 million bond at the Cochise County jail on an aggravated kidnapping charge in connection with the Texas abduction as well as a local charge of attempted armed robbery, authorities said.

Megan Leann Holden, a 19-year-old college student from Henderson, Texas, was reported missing Thursday morning when she did not return home from her night shift at a Tyler, Texas, Wal-Mart. Her body was discovered Friday on the side of a West Texas

Kidnaping timeline

Authorities say Johnny Lee Williams apparently drove about 1,000 miles before he was arrested Friday morning in Wilcox. A brief timeline of the events:

• **11:45 p.m. Wednesday:** Holden was abducted after work, about 11:45 p.m. on Wednesday.

• **Friday:** Williams was shot in an attempted robbery just before 6 a.m. Friday.

• **Friday:** Williams drove to a hospital and was arrested about 6:30 a.m. He was taken to police mid morning.

• **Friday:** Holden's body was found by a highway, about 9:45 a.m. Friday.



ROUTE: See report, The Associated Press.

highway near the community of Stanton.

About 6 a.m. Friday, investigators say, Williams pulled into the Mountain View RV Park in Bowie driving Holden's pickup truck. He went inside a convenience store on the property where he pulled out a gun and demanded

money, said Carol Capas, a spokeswoman for the Cochise County Sheriff's Department.

"He said, 'This robbery. I want all the money in the cash register,'" store worker Richie Chapman said.

"And as he said that, he drew a weapon from underneath his

shirt and I drew and fired."

"If he had gotten a shot off, I would have been dead," said Chapman, a retired New York firefighter who carries a .45-caliber automatic. "And I have no doubts about it. But I think he would have shot me."

Chapman "did threaten, and pulled out his own gun and shot the man one time," Capas said.

Investigators said Williams ran to the truck and drove away. A short time later, as he traveled east on Interstate 10, Williams pulled over and began flagging down passing motorists.

When deputies arrived at the area where Williams was flagging down motorists, they were told by someone that the man had driven himself to Northern Cochise Community Hospital in Wilcox.

Capas said Williams was treated at the hospital before being released to FBI agents Friday.

■ The Associated Press contributed to this story. Contact Ignacio Ibarra at 400-7741 or libarraz@azstarnet.com.

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Fired cop had porn images on computer

Indication he removed files kicked off investigation

By Eric Swedlund

A Tucson police investigation of fired Lt. Wendell Hunt's work computer found about 1,100 pornographic images and evidence of pornography Web sites, according to police reports released Friday.

An Internal Affairs warrant requested the forensic examination on Jan. 4, based on indications that Hunt had been removing files from the laptop computer Dec. 17, the date he was served with notice of the department's intention to fire him, according to the reports.

The internal investigation is not complete, and a police spokesman would not answer any specific questions relating to the investigation, saying there have been no findings and Hunt still has a due-process right to respond. It is not a criminal investigation, said Sgt. Kerry Puller.

In addition to being fired for withholding and leaking information in a high-profile murder case, Hunt was suspended for 30 days in 2003 for having sex on duty in his patrol car with a woman he'd invited on a civilian tour and videotaping her naked. Investigation into sexual harassment claims against Hunt by a police dispatcher also led to his termination.

"First off, they don't have a leg to stand on in the initial firing cases and they know it," said Hunt's attorney, Jeff Rogers.

Rogers denied that his client downloaded porno-



Wendell Hunt

Text messaging lets Iraqis foil insurgents without getting killed

By Ellen Knickermeyer

ISRAQIYAH, Iraq — The tip came in fast, telephone, and discreet. Maj. Mohammed Salim Abbas Ali al-Zubaidi of the Iraqi national guard scolded down to read it: "Black four-door Escalade. Behind cinema."

From cell-phone screen to local subscription. Acting on the recent text-message tip to the Iraqi national guard commander, police in a nearby town tracked down a black car behind the theater and arrested the driver for suspected links to insurgent attacks.

In the volatile Shiite-Sunni towns north of Baghdad known as the "triangle of death," Iraqi civilians increasingly are letting their thumbs do the talking, via Arabic text messages sent from the safety of their homes, Iraqi security forces and U.S. Marines say.

At a time when U.S. and Iraqi security forces are desperate for information on attacks — preferably in advance — mobile-phone text messages allow civilians to pass on information from a discreet distance, their identities shielded from security forces and their neighbors.

Although a cell phone displays the caller's number, phone records are so chaotic in Iraq that chances are slim anyone could track down a tipster. And text

More Iraq coverage PAGE A11

SEE MESSAGES A8

Rancher wins \$600K in suit against enviros

By Mitch Tekin

Tucson's Center for Biological Diversity must pay rancher and hunter Jim Chilton \$600,000 because the environmental group defamed him with a press release and photo posted on its Web site, a jury decided Friday.

In a 9-1 verdict, jurors in Pima County Superior Court awarded Chilton \$600,000 for the harm done to his reputation and Arizona cattle company. The jury tacked on an additional \$300,000 in punitive damages meant to punish the center and deter others from committing libel.

Chilton, whose wife, Sue, is chairwoman of the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, sued the center over material that alleged he mismanaged his 21,000-acre Forest Service allotment, northwest of Nogales.

Many of the center's 21 photos depicted barren patches that reporters described as "deserted" by cows, but Chilton's lawyer showed jurors wide-angle photos taken at the same locations that revealed the surroundings as worthy of a postcard, with oak and

mesquite dotting lush, rolling hills.

The center countered that the material it published in July 2002 could not be libelous because it was honest opinion. The photos weren't doctored, the center said, and they were public records that were part of its failed bid to block removal of Chilton's grazing permit.

The center, which is typically the plaintiff in court, will probably appeal the decision, and its insurance should pay for at least some of the damages, if they're upheld, said attorney Kevin Suckling.

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Jim Chilton

COMING SUNDAY I-10 WORK WORRIES

A massive road project that will close Interstate 10 exits and entrances Downtown is causing concern among hospital officials, emergency-service personnel and business owners.

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Weather

TODAY'S FORECAST

60° chance of rain.

High 67° / Low 54°

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