

One suspect jailed, second still sought in Casey's Store burglary

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Wednesday, 16 September 2009 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 16 September 2009 12:36

Two people have been charged in the Monday, August 31, burglary of the Casey's General Store on U.S. Highway 31 South in Scottsburg.

Michael LaMaster, 19, Scottsburg, remains at the Scott County Security Center. Police were still seeking Gladys "Suzie" Saylor, 33, also of Scottsburg.

Both have been charged in Scott Circuit Court with one count each of burglary, conspiracy to commit burglary and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Both burglary-related charges are Class C felonies. The third charge is a Class A misdemeanor.

Sgt. Steven Herald with the Scottsburg Police Department prepared the probable cause affidavit filed with the charges against the pair.

In the document, Sgt. Herald related how he was dispatched to the business on September 1 with other officers. Two store managers were present, one of whom confirmed the store had been closed at 11:40 p.m.

By looking at security camera tape, the officer learned that two unauthorized people entered the store at 11:45 p.m. The woman wore a hat and a hoodie sweatshirt with the hood pulled up obscuring her face. The male wore a hat, white bandanna, white t-shirt and faded blue jeans. He was also seen wearing a white bracelet.

The camera recorded the pair's activities inside the store. The woman went into the office and shut off some lights and then went to the store's safe and opened it by punching in numbers on the safe's keypad. She dumped money from the safe into a trash can.

Her companion grabbed chewing tobacco and cigarettes and put them into the trash container.

They then left by the front door.

On a tip, police started searching for Saylor, described as a recent employee who had been fired. When Sgt. Herald went to Saylor's residence, he was told by people there that she had left shortly before the officer's arrival. They said she had "...a lot of cash..." and she purportedly told the threesome at the residence that she'd just robbed Casey's.

Given a second address to check, officers went to the home of LaMaster, finding him and a male juvenile there. LaMaster was wearing a white bracelet, the officer noted. A carton of cigarettes was seen laying by the door.

LaMaster allegedly admitted his part in the burglary. The juvenile had reportedly driven the pair to Casey's to commit the crime. The teenager gave police rolled change, a trash can and some tobacco which he allegedly said was from the burglary. A white bandanna was also found in the boy's vehicle, the officer's report stated.

LaMaster was taken into custody. At his initial court hearing on September 2, a not guilty plea was entered for him. Bail was set at \$50,000 corporate surety or full cash, and his jury trial date is February 2, 2010.

The defendant was assigned a public defender.