

# WINTER HAVEN POLICE

125 N. Lake Silver Dr., NW • Winter Haven, FL 33881 • Phone: 863-291-5858 • [www.winterhavenpd.com](http://www.winterhavenpd.com)

Date: Sept. 9, 2014  
Time: 3 P.M.  
Contact: Jamie Brown – Public Information Officer  
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WINTER HAVEN: Winter Haven Police are asking for the public's assistance in identifying an armed robber who struck at the Sonic drive-in restaurant last night.

On 9-8-14 at approximately 10:21 p.m., an unidentified white male wearing a ski mask approached a female "car hop" at Sonic (1520 1<sup>st</sup> St., S, Winter Haven) as she was crossing the parking lot after serving a customer. The suspect jumped out of some bushes holding an unknown type handgun and demanded money.

The worker dropped her apron and ran across the parking lot screaming while the suspect ran behind the business and down the northern driveway that empties out to Ave. O, SE. (Across from the parking area of Regency Medical Center) Employees and several customers followed the suspect where he crossed Ave. O, SE and jumped a wall into the southwest corner of Briar Crest apartments parking lot. He landed in the waiting pickup truck bed and the truck sped off. Although extremely shook up, the worker was uninjured.

Police are asking anyone in the area at that time to contact detectives. A neighboring business video shows a few vehicles seen passing by the driveway area of Sonic and Ave. O S.E. Someone in the area during this time may have information that is useful.

The suspect is described as a white male 5'8" – 5'9", 150-160 pounds possibly between the ages of 16-20. He had a blue or black ski mask over his head and was wearing dark colored shorts and dark shoes. The vehicle he jumped into is a black, four-door Ford Explorer Sport Trac with tinted windows and a bed liner. There is currently no information on the driver of the truck.

Anyone who was in the area of Ave. O SE near the Sonic driveway between 10:05 p.m. and 10:25 p.m. is asked to contact Detective Shane Ditty at 863-401-2256. Any information could be useful in the investigation.