



P. O. Box 1380 ♦ 121 Main Street  
Buda, TX 78610  
(512) 312-0084

For Immediate Release

Contact: David Marino, Public Information Officer  
512-312-0084 (Office) 520-576-4975 (Cell)

## **Armed Robbery Suspect Arrested**

**BUDA, TX** – A man wanted in connection with the armed robbery of a gas station in Buda has been arrested in Austin.

On May 16, 2016 at approximately 10:40 p.m., the Buda Police Department responded to an armed robbery call at the Murphy USA Gas Station at 1615 Main Street. The suspect, armed with a knife, demanded money from the cash register. Officers canvassed the area, but were unable to locate the suspect. Officers reviewed the surveillance video at the scene and were able to identify a White Chrysler 300 as the suspect vehicle, a possible license plate number, and a suspect description.

On May 17, 2016 at approximately 6:37 a.m., the Murphy USA at 710 E. Ben White Boulevard in Austin was robbed. A vehicle description (also a White Chrysler 300) and license plate number were provided to Austin Police. APD determined that the vehicle was registered to 21-year-old Erick Lovelace. Officers later observed the suspect vehicle traveling on Deatonhill Drive in Austin, near Lovelace's home, and they conducted a traffic stop. The driver was identified as 28-year-old Eric Hayes and Erick Lovelace was identified as a passenger in the vehicle.

Hayes and Lovelace were arrested and taken to the Travis County Jail.

Based on the surveillance video, the Buda Police Department was able to match the license plate number to the vehicle stopped by APD. After comparing the surveillance video, it was also determined that Eric Hayes was the primary suspect in both gas station robberies.

Hayes is charged with Aggravated Robbery and Possession of Marijuana.

The investigation is ongoing.



**Surveillance Pics – May 16, 2016  
Murphy USA, 1615 Main Street, Buda**

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