



# CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748  
CLEARWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT, 645 PIERCE STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756  
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POLICE DEPARTMENT

## RELEASE # 10-173

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## CLEARWATER POLICE ARREST TWO SUSPECTS FOR ATM SKIMMING

**WHO:** Samuil Slavov (Arrested)  
DOB: 8-30-83  
Schiller Park, IL  
CHARGES: Use of a Scanning Device (2 X)

Miroslav S. Petkov (Arrested)  
DOB: 9-19-83  
Rosemont, IL  
CHARGE: Use of a Scanning Device

**WHAT:** Use of Scanning Device  
Seized: 2001 BMW, \$2048.00

**WHEN:** October 25, 2010  
8:55 p.m.

**WHERE:** Regions Bank  
655 S. Belcher Road  
Clearwater, Fla.

**SUMMARY:** Regions Bank security personnel notified Clearwater Police of the potential of two skimming/scanning devices attached to two of their ATM machines located in Clearwater. Detectives from the Robbery Unit and Narcotics Unit immediately set up surveillance on the ATM machine located at 655 Belcher Road.

At approximately 2055 hours, the above listed suspects approached the Regions ATM and immediately removed the attached scanning device.





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Units closed in on the suspects as they left the area and a traffic stop was conducted.

Both suspects were placed into custody and one scanning device was recovered from the suspect vehicle. A second scanning device was located at a separate ATM machine.

The scanning device was silver in appearance with a card slot that is placed directly over the legitimate card slot. The device has a magnetic strip reader that reads and stores the customers' account information when they enter their card into the ATM machine. The device also has a very small pinhole camera pointed at the key pad and records the customers' PIN numbers as they enter them on the pad.

The suspects are both from the Chicago, Illinois area and apparently traveled to the Clearwater area to perpetrate their crimes. The U.S. Secret Service was notified and responded to assist. Both suspects invoked their rights and made limited statements.

Slavov was also identified as a potential suspect from a similar incident in 2008 in Clearwater. PCSO Forensics was able to make a positive latent hit on Slavov from that incident and he was charged accordingly. PCSO, US Secret Service, FBI, Immigrations Customs Enforcement, and other agencies investigating these subjects and their associates have been notified. An alert has also been issued through the banking industry. Additional investigation is pending.

Customers should follow the following advice when using ATM machines:

- Use a machine that is familiar to you and look for anything new or suspicious;
- If anything different, unusual or suspicious about an ATM is noticed, contact bank security or law enforcement immediately;
- Protect PIN numbers and shield the key pad when entering PIN numbers.

