



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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RAPIST IN CUSTODY

On November 5, 2008, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department responded to a residence in the Harbor Beach area in regards to a report of a Sexual Battery involving an elderly female.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the victim allowed an acquaintance, James L. Carris, 5/30/55, come into her residence. After a struggle, Carris, sexually battered the 82 year old female and fled the area after overhearing her on the phone with the police.

Subsequent investigation by the Detectives in the Special Victims Unit identified Carris and arrest warrants were obtained. Fort Lauderdale Fugitive Task Force Detective Chuck Morrow conducted investigation and developed information that Carris was working as a self-employed carpenter on a yacht docked in the Harbor Beach area of Fort Lauderdale Beach. For the past week Fugitive Detective along with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Marine Unit were searching the waterways in Harbor Beach for the possible vessel.

On December 1, 2008, Fugitive Detective obtained a tip through Crime Stoppers providing information on a possible owner of the yacht and the name and location of the vessel. Fugitive Detective along with the Fort Lauderdale Marine Unit conducted surveillance throughout the afternoon at 2500 Lucille Drive in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. During the surveillance Carris was observed boarding the yacht docked at the rear of the residence. Fugitive Detective with the assistance of the Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Unit, United States Customs, Career Criminal Unit Detectives, and the FBI, apprehended Carris without incident.

Carris was interviewed by Detectives in the Special Victim's Unit and made admissions to the incident. Carris was charged with Sexual Battery and Battery on Person 65 years or older, along with unrelated outstanding warrants for Resisting Officers with violence and Indecent Exposure. I.C.E. Agents have also placed an immigration hold on Carris.



James L Carris

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