



Texas Financial Crimes Intelligence Center
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FCIC, Other Police Agencies File Criminal Charges Against 10 People Accused of Credit Card Skimming Across Texas

AUSTIN – The Texas Financial Crimes Intelligence Center, working with the Midland County District Attorney’s Office, has filed criminal charges against 10 men accused of a large-scale payment card and gas pump skimming/fuel theft operation that spanned multiple jurisdictions in Texas and spread into other states.

The charges filed include Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity, a first-degree felony, and Unlawful Interception of Electronic Communications (Skimmer) a second-degree felony. The charges resulted from an investigation that began in 2023 and still continues.

FCIC Special Agents uncovered a sophisticated criminal network involved in the design, manufacture, sale, and use of multiple variations of payment card skimming devices that targeted fuel pumps. Members of this organization not only carried out skimming operations themselves but also supplied devices and trained others in their methods, spreading their criminal activity into multiple states.

Evidence shows the vast financial impact of this group. For example, just one suspect laundered more than \$400,000 in a single year through illicit transactions. Investigators further determined that members of the organization were actively selling and supplying skimmers to suspects both in Texas and in several other states, significantly expanding the reach of the criminal enterprise.

The FCIC, working with numerous other agencies, successfully disrupted the criminal network, preventing further fraudulent activity, safeguarding thousands of consumers by recovering compromised payment card numbers before they could be exploited. The following agencies participated in the investigation with the FCIC:

- Midland Police Department
- Odessa Police Department
- Ector County Sheriff’s Office
- Texas Comptroller Investigator from the Midland/Odessa area

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- New Braunfels Police Department
- Austin Police Department
- Texas Department of Public Safety (Austin)
- Pflugerville Police Department
- Homeland Security Investigations
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Arrest warrants have been issued for:

- Yosbel Alonso Ayala
- Deibys Mayea Diaz
- Lazaro Emanuel Cruz Javique
- Marco Antonio Castillo Zayas
- Hugo Brizuela-Jimenez
- Hiuberts Lorenzo Parra
- Ernesto Salazar Verdecia
- Juan Alberto Banos Herrera
- Reinel Guerra Guerra
- Javier Martin Gonzalez

Several suspects are now in custody with several others still at large.

Visit the FCIC's [website](http://www.fcic.texas.gov) for more information and resources.

About the Texas FCIC

The Texas Financial Crimes Intelligence Center, located in Tyler, Texas, is staffed by law enforcement officers and intelligence analysts with extensive experience investigating organized financial crimes, including credit card skimming and shimming that attack fuel dispensers, ATMs, and point of sale terminals, as well as many other types of financial crimes. The Smith County District Attorney's office runs day-to-day operations at the FCIC, while the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation reimburses Smith County for operating expenses related to the Center.

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