

## TEST LINKS GUN TO SLAYING - DETROITER CHARGED IN DEATH OF BUSINESSMAN

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Ballistic **tests** have connected a handgun and ammunition **to** the Dec. 6 death of businessman Haitham Bahri during a robbery, Eastpointe police said Tuesday.

The **gun** was among three confiscated when police arrested Gregory Bolden at a home in Mt. Morris Township. The arrest took place about two weeks after the robbery at Bahri's Pageland Communications, a cellular telephone and pager store in Eastpointe. Bahri, 29, lived in Sterling Heights.

Bolden, 30, of Detroit has been charged with first-degree murder, armed robbery, felony use of a firearm and carrying a concealed weapon.

On Tuesday, Macomb County Circuit Judge Edward Servitto set Bolden's trial for May 13. Bolden, who has pleaded not guilty, is being held without bond in the Macomb County jail.

Police said Bolden posed as a customer the evening he came into the store armed. He ordered Bahri's sister, Hala, into a back room. When he encountered Bahri, he allegedly shot him in the abdomen. Police said Bolden left with less than \$5,000.

Police said Bolden's fingerprint was found on a piece of duct tape that was used **to** cover the woman's mouth. He allegedly removed only one glove during the robbery **to** apply the tape.

A Michigan State Police crime lab ran the print through a database and matched Bolden's print before his arrest. Bolden was paroled from prison two months before Bahri's death. He was serving nine years for an armed robbery in Warren.

The crime lab also ran the ballistics **tests** that came back last week, bolstering the case against Bolden, said Eastpointe Police Lt. John Calabrese.

He said two handguns and a shotgun were near Bolden when he was arrested at a friend's home. The friend had been paroled on a second-degree murder conviction.

"We took them by surprise. They never really had a chance **to** get their **guns** ," Calabrese said.

About seven Eastpointe officers, the city's tactical unit and Mt. Morris police surrounded the house and made the arrests.

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