

Florida Shooter Still in Watauga Custody

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Jose Martins, the suspect in shooting up a restaurant in a crowded Florida mall, is still in custody in Watauga County after his arrest here Tuesday at dusk. Martins, 30, had been on the run since an incident last week in the Gulf Coast Town Center in a restaurant called the House of Brewz where he reportedly fired a number of shots. No one was hurt. He made a court appearance, was set a \$250,000 bond, obtained an attorney, but has not waived extradition to Florida, according to an email from Sheriff Len Hagaman. Reporters at Florida's Channel 7 news said it was amazing no one was injured in the hail of gunfire, but that after the shooting, Martins fled north and was found in Boone Tuesday night. His father, Carlos Martins, spoke to Sheriff Len Hagaman and said it was a relief for him and his wife to know that his son was found alive, Carlos telling media in Florida that his son suffered a mental problem and that his dismissal from his job set off the shooting. U.S. Marshal's Florida Regional Fugitive Task Force determined that Jose Martins might be hiding out in Boone, and with the assistance of Marshals in North Carolina and local law enforcement, Martins was located at a hotel here on King Street where he was arrested late Tuesday in the parking lot after walking out of his room. Martins faces charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and firing a deadly missile into an occupied building.