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Police: Phony war hero attempts suicide before court date

Last updated on: 10/3/2007 3:45:12 PM by **NBC2 News**

COLLIER COUNTY: NBC2 has found that phony war hero Raymond Gauthier attempted suicide the morning he was supposed to appear in court. Naples Police were called to the beach at 13th Avenue South and Gulf Shore Boulevard South at around 9 a.m. on September 5th - the same time his court hearing was supposed to start.

According to the police report, officers found Gauthier lying on Naples Beach near the Naples Pier. He had taken an entire bottle of pills.

Gauthier was transported to North Collier Hospital. At that very moment, his attorney stood in a Collier County courtroom asking for more time to review evidence in the case.

Gauthier was arrested August 2nd in Brevard County, Florida, his new home, for violating his probation.



According to the corrections officers who searched his home, they found phony military paperwork listing dozens of medals he didn't earn.

He was also arrested in December in Collier County for forging military documents to get a Prisoner of War license plate.

As part of his probation in the case, Gauthier had to get rid of all phony military paperwork, his military uniform, medals, and also work at the Collier County Jail every Memorial Day and Veterans Day for the next five years.

Raymond Gauthier's court date has been rescheduled for October 16th. More than a dozen veterans are expected to pack the courtroom.

A judge will decide whether Gauthier did in fact violate his probation and if so, what his punishment will be.

Gauthier now faces up to five years in jail.

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