

'Barefoot Bandit' busted in Bahamas! Colton Harris-Moore arrested: police

By [Helen Kennedy](#) and [Michael Sheridan](#)
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

Sunday, July 11th 2010, 8:27 AM



July 2009 file self-portrait provided by the Island County Sheriff's Office shows Colton Harris-Moore, the so-called 'Barefoot Bandit' who police say has been arrested in the Bahamas.



Thompson/AP

Adin Stevens displays shirts he printed on a whim weeks ago celebrating teenage fugitive Colton Harris-Moore.

Related News

- Articles
- ['Barefoot Bandit' ma in book deal](#)
- ['Barefoot Bandit' suspected of crashing ANOTHER stolen plane](#)

The "Barefoot Bandit" has been busted.

[Colton Harris-Moore](#), a 19-year-old outlaw who has been on the run for nearly two years, has been arrested in [the Bahamas](#), according to police.

The teen was reportedly captured in the early hours on northern [Eleuthera](#) island, a police official told [The Associated Press](#).

Island police have been hunting the elusive "Bandit" for nearly a week after he crashed a stolen plane.

A press conference is planned for later today.

Authorities picked up his trail in Eleuthera after recovering a 44-foot power boat stolen from a marina on Abaco, 40 miles to the north, where he was suspected in a string of burglaries.

The search for the [Houdini](#)-like Harris-Moore, who is wanted in several states, moved to the Bahamas on Tuesday after a single-engine Cessna stolen on July 4 from an airport in [Indiana](#) was found crashed in shallow waters off Abaco island.

"He's gone from being a regional nuisance to a national nuisance to... an international criminal," Seattle [FBI agent Steven Dean](#) said last week.

Harris-Moore, who grew up in an abusive home, started living in the woods at age 7 and was busted for theft at 12.

The 6-foot, 5-inch teen fled a halfway house in 2008 and allegedly embarked on an increasingly audacious crime spree, stealing cars, speedboats and planes in [Washington](#), [Idaho](#), [Oregon](#), [Nebraska](#), [Iowa](#) and [Illinois](#).

Harris-Moore became known as the "Barefoot Bandit" last fall after cops found footprints in an Idaho airport hangar where a plane - which later crash-landed out of gas 260 miles away - was stolen.

The brazen young outlaw also is known to leave clever notes at the scenes of his crimes.

In June, Harris-Moore left \$100 and a hand-written note at a veterinary clinic in Raymond, Washington. It read: "Drove by, had some extra cash. Please use this cash for the care of animals -- Colton Harris-Moore, (AKA: "The Barefoot Bandit") [Camano Island](#), WA." ([See note here.](#))

Since he began his two-year run, Harris-Moore has gained "folk hero" fame like a modern-day [Billy the Kid](#). Thousands "like" his fan page on [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#) is littered with videos both for and about him.

[Pamela Kohler](#), the mother of Harris-Moore, may be writing a book concerning her runaway son.

With News Wire Services