

EXARKANA, Ark. -- A handcuffed suspect who had been stopped earlier Monday by Arkansas State Police freed himself and fled from the traffic stop driving a state police Chevrolet Tahoe.

The suspect was taken into custody about 2:30 p.m. Monday.

Jabaurri Martin, 23, of Houston, Texas had been pulled over by state police about 12:30 p.m. along U.S. Highway 67 north of Texarkana, according to a news release from ASP. Martin was driving a pick-up truck stolen earlier in Texas.

Martin was handcuffed by the trooper and placed in the rear of the patrol vehicle. While the trooper was making arrangements to have the stolen vehicle towed to Texarkana, Martin was able to free himself and drive away leading to a manhunt that ended east of Texarkana where the state police vehicle was found abandoned on Miller County Road 128.

Martin was taken into custody without incident. He is currently being held in the Miller County Detention Center charged with theft by receiving, escape, and theft of the state police patrol vehicle.

An investigation of the incident is continuing.