Judy Gammons, assistant manager of Cash Express in Lafayette, arrived at work around 7 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 19, expecting to unlock the door and begin a typically busy day at the office.

But after finding that the office was flooded, the back of the building had been torn through and the company's two safes were missing, Gammons quickly realized that her day would be anything but typical.

"I noticed that the floor was flooded and I called to tell the manager that the water heater had busted," Gammons said. "And then I saw that the two safes were missing . . ."

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Officer Jason Roberts of the Lafayette Police Department arrived on the scene, locating the missing the safes behind the building where two holes had been torn out; one leading under the building and the other ripped out directly behind the water heater, which had been busted.

The burglary is believed to have taken place sometime Thursday night.

While the safes were broken into, there was no cash in either one, and the only items stolen were some of the company's checks.

Two computers were destroyed and the tile floor of the office had to be pulled up due to the extensive water damage.

While the store did have a security camera in the lobby area where the cash register was located, the thieves remained in the closet where the safes were positioned, leading Gammons to believe that they were aware of the camera's placement in the building.

"There was cash in the register that wasn't even touched," she said. "And they stayed out of view of the camera the entire time."

Police also investigated the back loading garage of nearby business Lewis Bypass Carpets where fresh tire tracks led into the unlocked garage.

Nothing was reported stolen from Lewis Bypass Carpets, but it's suspected that the thieves may have parked their vehicle in the garage while the burglary took place.

Cash Express, located at 614 Highway 52 Bypass East, was closed on Friday, Sept. 19, but reopened for business the following day. The investigation is still ongoing and anyone with further information is urged to contact the Lafayette Police Department.