



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**EVENT: Indictment**

**Defendant: Rynell Rodnie Roberts**

**GRAND JURY RETURNS NINE-COUNT INDICTMENT**

***Three Armed Bank Robberies and One Attempted Bank Robbery Among Charges***

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A federal grand jury has returned a nine-count indictment against Rynell Rodnie Roberts of Detroit, Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced today. Berg was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Detroit field office.

The indictment charges Roberts with committing three armed bank robberies and attempting a fourth:

- September 3, 2008 – Charter One Bank, 28797 Woodward Avenue, Berkley, stealing approximately \$4,160;
- September 18, 2008 – Charter One Bank, 28797 Woodward Avenue, Berkley, stealing approximately \$3,910;
- September 26, 2008 – Bank of America, 3528 Fort Street, Lincoln Park, stealing approximately \$6,000; and

- August 28, 2008 – Chase Bank, 23210 Ford Road, Dearborn, attempted bank robbery.

Roberts is also charged with four counts of using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. Roberts discharged a firearm during the September 26, 2008 Bank of America robbery. Finally, Roberts is charged with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm in connection with the bank robberies.

Roberts was arrested in this case on September 26, 2008, after attempting to flee from local law enforcement officers immediately after robbing Bank of America.

Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg said, “The charges today are serious: they address a spree of bank robberies that included the discharging of a firearm. Federal crimes that involve serious violence and any sort of shooting will jump to the top of our priority list. I commend the exemplary work of the FBI for the work they did in investigating this case.”

Each of three counts of bank robbery and the count of attempted bank robbery is punishable by up to 20 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The first firearm count is punishable by a sentence of between 5 to 10 years imprisonment. Each of the three subsequent firearm counts is punishable by a mandatory sentence of 25 years imprisonment, each to be served consecutively to one another. The offense of felon-in-possession of a firearm is punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

An indictment is only a charging document and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and it is the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Leonid Feller and Louis Gabel.