



U.S. Department of Justice

**Terrence Berg
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan**

*Suite 2001
211 West Fort Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277*

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

Sep 15, 2008

EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Andre Jones

BANK ROBBERY BOSS AGREES TO SERVE 215 YEARS IN PRISON

Crime Spree Included 11 Bank Robberies, Shooting of DPD Officer and Bank Teller

The leader of an armed bank robbery gang pleaded guilty and agreed to serve a mandatory minimum sentence of 215 years imprisonment, 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. Andre Jones, a/k/a Donlay Holiday, 28, of Detroit pleaded guilty to 9 counts of bank robbery, 10 firearm counts, and two counts of conspiracy. Jones admitted to robbing the following nine banks:

1. October 31, 2005 – TCF Bank, 26838 Plymouth Road, Redford, Michigan, stealing \$92,055;
2. March 16, 2006 -- Chase Bank, 32203 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, stealing \$157,728;
3. January 2, 2007 -- LaSalle Bank, 24660 Southfield Rd., Southfield, stealing \$116,170;
4. March 16, 2007 -- Chase Bank, W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights, stealing \$117,818;
5. June 25, 2007 -- TCF Bank, 1811 Crooks Rd., Royal Oak, stealing \$37,429;

6. July 11, 2007 – Franklin Bank, 26336 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, Michigan, stealing \$0;
7. August 7, 2007 – National City Bank, located at 625 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio, stealing \$77,048;
8. October 11, 2007 -- Fifth Third Bank, 3754 Rochester Rd., Troy, stealing \$41,642;
9. November 14, 2007 – Chase Bank, 33051 Schoenherr, Sterling Heights, stealing \$1,600.

During each robbery, Jones was armed with an AK-47-style assault rifle or a handgun. During the November 14, 2007 Sterling Heights robbery, Jones admitted to shooting a bank teller in the leg.

Jones also admitted to arranging robberies at a Fifth Third Bank and a Citizens Bank, both in Flint, during the summer of 2006, but not participating in the heists himself. In total, Jones and his crew took more than \$550,000 during the 11 robberies. As part of his plea, Jones also admitted to shooting a Detroit Police Department officer on December 11, 2007. Jones shot the officer as he approached a Cadillac Escalade in which Jones had slept that night.

Three other defendants in the case had previously pleaded guilty. Terez Deon Rivers, 33, faces 10 years imprisonment, and Frederick Samuel Humes, Jr., 29, faces 15 years for each serving as getaway drivers for a handful of the robberies. Sparkle Eldridge, 23, faces up to 5 years imprisonment for driving for one of the robberies.

The last remaining defendant, Jawan Martin, 28, is scheduled to begin trial on Thursday, September 18 on 21 counts of a Second Superseding Indictment. Martin is alleged to have robbed seven banks with Jones, as well as committing the two Flint robberies. An indictment is only a charging document. 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 United States Attorneys Leonid Feller and Mark Chasteen.