



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern Division*

*Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*36 South Charles Street
Fourth Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD:410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

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**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE E. LEDUC
(410) 209-4885**

UPPER MARLBORO MAN CONVICTED OF BANK ROBBERY

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today DaRen Gadsden, 28, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, was convicted following a three-day jury trial, of bank robbery and aiding and abetting a bank robber.

The federal jury trial began on September 12, 2005, before the U.S. District Court William D. Quarles. Testimony concluded this morning, and the jury returned the verdict of guilty today.

According to the facts presented during the trial, on the morning of March 1, 2005, DaRen Gadsden entered two banks for very brief periods, the Sandy Spring Bank at 166 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, Maryland, and the First Mariner Bank at 161A Jennifer Road, Annapolis, Maryland. minutes later, Tyrone Mann Jefferson robbed the First Mariner bank by vaulting over the counter and threatening the tellers with a black pellet gun. Gadsden waited in his vehicle in the parking lot and served as the getaway driver. The trial testimony included testimony from two Anne Arundel County police officers who happened to be in the parking lot of the First Mariner and witnessed the robbery. One of the officers followed Gadsden's vehicle and apprehended Gadsden and Jefferson shortly after the robbery. Jefferson subsequently pled guilty to that bank robbery and to a bank robbery in Charles County and an attempted bank robbery in Washington, D.C. He was sentenced this morning by Judge Quarles to 78 months imprisonment.

DaRen Gadsden faces a maximum sentence of twenty years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 for the bank robbery conviction. Judge Quarles has scheduled sentencing for December 1, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. Gadsden is detained pending his sentencing.

United States Attorney Rosenstein thanked the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Anne Arundel County Police Department for their investigation, and expressed his appreciation to the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office, which originally handled the case before it was referred for federal prosecution. Mr. Rosenstein praised Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephanie A. Gallagher, who prosecuted the case.