



# Department of Justice

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## **PENNSYLVANIA MAN SENTENCED TO 32 YEARS FOR STRING OF ARMED ROBBERIES**

### PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JOSHUA NEUBERT, 29, of Pennsylvania, was sentenced to 384 months (32 years) imprisonment yesterday by U.S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following his guilty plea to two counts of possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime of violence. The case was the result of investigations by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the police departments of Brownsburg, Greensburg, Muncie, Noblesville, Seymour, Shelbyville, and Zionsville, as well as the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

NEUBERT and Desiree Smith, were arrested by Indianapolis Metropolitan Police on July 6, 2007, following the armed robbery of a Crystal Flash gas station in south Indianapolis. Subsequent investigation by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies revealed that NEUBERT and Smith robbed 17 businesses in central Indiana between June 23 and July 6, 2007. In each of those robberies, NEUBERT entered the business and brandished a 9 millimeter pistol while Smith waited outside in a vehicle and acted as the get-away driver. All totaled, the pair stole nearly \$4,000, \$3,000 of which was never recovered.

“Armed robbery of business establishments is usually prosecuted as a state offense,” said U.S. Attorney Morrison. “However, where there are multiple robberies in multiple state jurisdictions, federal prosecution can be efficient--and the consequences of conviction severe.”

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Matthew Rinka, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker also imposed a five (5) year period of supervised release following NEUBERT's release from imprisonment, and ordered NEUBERT to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,895.79.

In February of this year, Judge Barker sentenced Smith to 120 months (10 years) imprisonment for her role in the robberies. Federal prisoners are not eligible for parole, and it is anticipated that NEUBERT and Smith will not be eligible for release before serving approximately 85% of their federal sentences.

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