



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias  
Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12/15/08

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

CONTACT: Patrick Crosby

(404)581-6016//

FAX (404)581-6160

## **BANK ROBBER SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON**

ATLANTA, GA - CARLTON ROLAND HUNTER, 44, of Decatur, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Thomas W. Thrash, Jr. on charges of armed bank robbery, discharging a firearm during a crime of violence, and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "This defendant is a criminal who has a history of endangering the lives of people through his violent acts. Today, thanks to the federal three-strikes law, which is designed to protect the community from violent repeat offenders like this defendant, he received the life sentence he deserves."

HUNTER was sentenced to life in prison under the federal three-strikes statute, which requires federal judges to impose a life sentence whenever a person is convicted of a serious violent felony and the government proves that the person was convicted on separate prior occasions of two or more serious violent felonies. HUNTER was convicted of the federal charges on July 14, 2008.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: HUNTER and his brother, Lamont Maurice Hunter, robbed the Atlanta Federal Credit Union in East Point, Georgia on August 15, 2007. HUNTER entered the Atlanta Federal Credit Union brandishing a pistol; he was wearing a bandana over his face and rubber gloves. HUNTER approached the teller counter and vaulted over the counter toward the tellers. Several bank employees tried to get away by running down a flight of stairs to the parking lot. HUNTER followed these employees and ordered them at gunpoint and with physical force to return to the bank. HUNTER then ordered the tellers to take money from the teller drawers and place it inside a pillowcase, which he had brought with him. After receiving the money, HUNTER ran down the stairs and out the back door. Almost simultaneously, HUNTER's brother, who was armed with a pistol and wearing a ski mask over his face, entered the bank. HUNTER'S brother encountered a customer attempting to leave the bank and ordered the customer back into the lobby. Once inside the lobby, HUNTER's brother fired his pistol at the tellers and ran out the front door. An officer of the Hapeville, Georgia Police Department was on routine patrol

near the bank at the time of the robbery and saw the getaway vehicle within seconds after it left the bank parking lot. The officer observed that the driver of this vehicle was wearing gloves and had a bandana over his face. As a result, the officer followed the vehicle and turned on his blue lights and siren. The HUNTER brothers refused to stop, however, and attempted to flee. A high-speed chase ensued, and the HUNTER brothers eventually abandoned their vehicle in a residential neighborhood and fled into the woods, leaving a trail of cash behind them. The HUNTER brothers were arrested after they were found hiding behind a vehicle in the yard of a house about a block from where they had abandoned the getaway vehicle, which was registered to HUNTER. The FBI obtained a search warrant for the getaway car and found evidence used or obtained in the robbery, including rubber gloves, a bandana, a ski mask, a pillow case, bank currency wrappers, and a large amount of United States currency.

At sentencing, the Government proved that HUNTER had four prior serious violent felony convictions for kidnapping and armed robbery in Georgia and Virginia.

HUNTER'S brother, Lamont Maurice Hunter, was convicted of these same charges on September 22, 2008, and was sentenced to serve more than 17 years in federal prison.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Russell Phillips prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is [www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).