

U.S. Department of Justice

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February 6, 2007

ROCKFORD MAN AND WOMAN CHARGED FOR THEIR ROLES IN ROBBERY OF NATIONAL CITY BANK IN ROCKFORD

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and CHET EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

Today in federal court, ROBERT J. JOHNSON, 38 (DOB: 12/20/1968), and REYNA P. WEAD, 28 (DOB: 10/04/1978), both of Rockford, were charged by federal criminal complaint for their roles in the October 24, 2006 bank robbery of the National City Bank branch located at 4615 East State Street, Rockford. According to the complaint, on the afternoon of October 24th, Wead drove Johnson to the area of the bank in October 2006, dropped him off and waited for him to return to the van. Meanwhile, Johnson entered the bank and approached a teller carrying a manilla envelope. Johnson removed a handgun from the envelope, pointed the gun at the teller and ordered the teller to place money inside the envelope. The teller put the money in the envelope and handed it back to Johnson, who then fled the bank on foot. When Johnson returned to the van driven by Wead, he got in the back and laid down. The complaint also states that Wead received some of the proceeds of the robbery from Johnson which she used to pay delinquent mortgage payments and other purposes. Johnson was charged in the complaint with bank robbery. Wead was charged with receiving money which she knew had been stolen by Johnson from National City Bank.

Today, both Johnson and Wead appeared before United States Magistrate Judge P. Michael Mahoney, who ordered both to be held in custody until a detention hearing is conducted. Johnson's detention hearing is scheduled for February 13, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. Wead's detention hearing is scheduled for February 8, 2007, at 10:30 a.m.

If convicted, Johnson faces a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison, and Wead faces up to 10 years in prison. Each defendant also faces a fine of up to \$250,000, up to 3 years of supervised release following imprisonment, and full restitution. The actual sentence would be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by the Rockford Police Department and the Rockford Office of the FBI. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Michael D. Love.

Members of the public are reminded that a criminal complaint is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. Each defendant is entitled to indictment by a federal grand jury and, if indicted, to a fair trial at which time the government has the burden of proving guilt of each defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.