

Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2010 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ohs

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TROTWOOD MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS AND ONE MONTH IMPRISONMENT FOR SERIES OF ARMED ROBBERIES Robberies Included Attempt to Abduct Credit Union Manager

DAYTON – Chukwuemeka O. Eziolisa, 25, of Trotwood, was sentenced in United States District Court here today to 15 years and one month imprisonment stemming from the December, 2009 robbery at Abbey Credit Union in Vandalia.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Keith L. Bennett, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigations; Huber Heights Police Chief Robert Schommer, and Vandalia Police Chief Douglas L. Knight announced the sentences handed down today by United States District Judge Thomas M. Rose.

Eziolisa pleaded guilty on March 25, 2010 to one count of armed credit union robbery and one count of brandishing a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. According to court documents, Eziolisa entered Abbey Credit Union on Falls Church Drive in Vandalia on December 19, 2009, wearing black clothing, black gloves, and a black ski mask. Eziolisa brandished a .380 Bryco Jennings handgun and demanded money from credit union employees, fleeing with cash. Officers later recovered the loaded firearm at Eziolisa's residence during the execution of a search warrant.

As part of his plea, Eziolisa admitted committing additional crimes, including an attempted robbery of a credit union on December 4, 2009, and a related abduction attempt, stemming from a scheme where he sat in the parking lot of the DayMet credit Union on Wagner Ford Road waiting for the credit union to close. Eziolisa then followed the credit union manager in her car and, when she stopped at a restaurant on her way home, Eziolisa pulled up next to her car, pointed a firearm at her, and told the manager to get in his car intending to take her back to the credit union so he could rob it. The manager thwarted the attempted abduction, assault and robbery by yelling, fleeing to a neighboring business and obtaining help, while Eziolisa fled the scene.

Eziolisa further admitted to robbing the Check Into Cash business on Brandt Pike in Huber Heights on December 5, 2009, when he donned a black ski mask, brandished a firearm, and demanded money from an employee, again fleeing with cash.

Eziolisa's sentence consists of 97 months imprisonment for the armed robbery and 84 months consecutive to that sentence for brandishing a firearm. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the institutions he robbed.

Eziolisa was arrested on December 29, 2009 and has been in custody since his arrest.

Stewart commended the investigation and handling of this case by FBI agents, Huber Heights and Vandalia police officers and detectives, and District Criminal Chief Vipal Patel and Assistant United States Attorney Andrew Hunt, who prosecuted the case.

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