



**United States Department of Justice  
United States Attorney's Office  
District of Minnesota**

**Frank J. Magill,  
United States Attorney**

David Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist  
(612) 664-5684; cell: (612) 730-2251

# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, Oct. 9, 2008

## **Shakopee man sentenced for robbing Plymouth bank**

A 32-year-old Shakopee man was sentenced yesterday in federal court for holding up a TCF Bank in Plymouth on Nov. 11, 2007.

On Oct. 8 in Minneapolis, United States District Court Judge John Tunheim sentenced Samuel Bension Ventura to 78 months in prison and three years supervised release. Ventura was indicted on March 4, 2008, and pleaded guilty on June 10.

According to his plea agreement, Ventura admitted that on Nov. 11 he did by force, violence and intimidation, take approximately \$5,706 from a bank teller. Ventura also admitted that he committed five additional bank robberies as charged in his indictment.

Those robberies occurred at the Highland Bank, located inside the Mall of America (Oct. 19, 2007); a TCF Bank in Edina (Oct. 24); a US Bank in St. Louis Park (Nov. 6); and a Guaranty Bank in Plymouth (Nov. 29 and Dec. 3).

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, Ventura allegedly entered the banks and handed a teller a note stating "This is a robbery, give me all the money in your drawer. Don't make me use my gun."

This case was the result of an investigation by the FBI, and the police departments of Bloomington, Edina, Plymouth and St. Louis Park. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathan P. Petterson.