



**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, Jan. 22, 2009

Brooklyn Center man indicted for bank robbery

A 49-year-old Brooklyn Center man was indicted yesterday in federal court in connection with the Dec. 19, 2008, holdup of a Brooklyn Park bank.

Robert Kerwin Durant was charged Jan. 21 with one count of bank robbery. His indictment alleges that on Dec. 19 he did by force, violence and intimidation take approximately \$4,060 from the U.S. Federal Credit Union, located at 9334 Zane Ave.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, the bank was robbed at approximately 10:50 a.m. by a lone male. The robber entered the bank, walked directly to a teller and whispered to her, "This is a stick-up. I'm serious, give me the cash." The robber had his left hand in his jacket, suggesting that he had a gun. The teller complied and gave the cash to the robber, who grabbed the money and walked out of the bank.

A witness outside the bank saw the robber get into a vehicle, which then quickly left the parking lot. A description of the vehicle and the man was provided to police, and officers saw a vehicle matching the description on Interstate-94, approaching the Dowling area.

Officers conducted a probable cause stop of the vehicle at the intersection of 14th Avenue N. and Grand Avenue in Minneapolis. The rear seat passenger matched the description of the robber and was arrested.

Police found \$200 on Durant's person, and during a search of the vehicle, police recovered the remaining cash, as well as clothing that matched what the robber was reported wearing.

If convicted, Durant faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI and the Brooklyn Park Police Department, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Erika R. Mozangue.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.