



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
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News Release

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Man indicted for armed bank robbery

A 29-year-old man was indicted today in federal court in connection with the Feb. 13 heist of a Wells Fargo Bank in Minneapolis.

Esley Andre Reid was charged March 19 with one count of armed bank robbery. Reid's indictment alleges that on Feb. 13, he did by force, violence and intimidation take approximately \$2,655 from the bank, and while doing so, jeopardized the life of a teller by using a dangerous weapon.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, at approximately 6:50 a.m. on Feb. 13, two tellers were opening the bank, located at 4943 34th Ave. S., when they were approached by a man wearing a ski mask and carrying a black revolver. As one of the tellers put a key in the door, the man said, "Don't do anything." He then unlocked the door and pushed the teller inside. The first teller was already in the bank.

Once inside, the robber told the tellers to "get all the money." He then forced the tellers into the vault room and ordered them to "open it up." The tellers complied and opened a money drawer. The robber grabbed the cash, placed it in a bag and left on foot.

A Minneapolis Police squad was in the area at the time and observed the man running eastbound toward 38th Avenue S. While officers set up a perimeter, a resident in the 4900 block of 37th Avenue S. called police, stating that a man wearing black clothes was on that resident's porch.

Police arrived and found the man, later identified as Reid, hiding under a couch cushion on the resident's porch. Reid resisted arrest and attempted to flee after he was handcuffed. During a search of the arrest area, police found a black jacket in a compost bin. Inside the jacket, they found a revolver and a bag containing cash.

If convicted, Reid faces a potential maximum penalty of 25 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the Minneapolis Police Department and the FBI. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States

Attorney LeeAnn K. Bell.

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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.