

U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE GRAND JURY CHARGES SALT LAKE CITY MAN WITH BANK ROBBERIES IN TAYLORSVILLE, WEST VALLEY CITY

SALT LAKE CITY – Burnice Alexander Williams, Jr., age 61, of Salt Lake City is charged with robbing two banks on the same day in an indictment returned Wednesday afternoon by a federal grand jury.

The indictment alleges Williams committed a May 2, 2011, robbery of U.S. Bank located at 4135 South Redwood Road in Taylorsville. It also charges him with a robbery on the same day at the Bank of Utah located at 2309 South Redwood Road in West Valley City.

According to a complaint filed in the case, a male entered U.S. Bank in Taylorsville about 12:40 p.m. on May 2 and approached the teller counter. The suspect gave the teller a note demanding money. The suspect also told the teller she had less than 10 seconds to comply. The suspect left, taking \$1,434 from the bank.

Bank surveillance video showed the suspect wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, black sunglasses, a red beanie cap, and light blue jeans.

About 4:30 p.m. the same day, a male entered the Bank of Utah in West Valley City and approached the teller. The suspect made demands similar to those made in the first robbery. The teller complied with the suspect's demands, putting a red dye pack in with the currency. The suspect left the bank with \$2,562. Bank video captured the robbery and showed the suspect wearing the same clothes as in the first robbery.

According to the complaint, shortly after the second robbery witnesses saw the suspect standing outside the bank with U.S. currency blowing around. They also saw the suspect get into an older station wagon. Witnesses were able to provide a vehicle description and license plate number to police officers.

Law enforcement officers located the vehicle and followed it to an apartment complex in Salt Lake City. Officers arrested Williams at the apartment complex. During the arrest, according to the complaint, Williams' hands and clothing were stained with red dye. Officers also located a black hooded sweatshirt, red beanie cap, and black sunglasses near the vehicle where Williams was arrested.

Williams is scheduled to be arraigned Thursday at 8:15 a.m. before U.S. Magistrate Judge Samuel Alba. Each count of bank robbery carries a potential 20-year sentence. Williams was on supervised release for a previous bank robbery conviction at the time of his arrest in this case. The case is being investigated by special agents of the FBI and West Valley City and Taylorsville police officers.

Indictments are not findings of guilt. Individuals charged in indictments are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty in court.

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