



U.S. Department of Justice

***United States Attorney
Eastern District of Arkansas***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2008

CONTACT: Jane W. Duke
United States Attorney
501-340-2600

GOULD POST OFFICE ROBBER INDICTED TODAY

Little Rock - U. S. Attorney Jane W. Duke and Daniel Medrano, Team Leader, United States Postal Inspection Service, announced today the indictment of Justin Ray, age 20, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Ray has been charged in the Eastern District of Arkansas with one count of postal robbery in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2114(a), and one count of brandishing a firearm during that postal robbery, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c).

According to the indictment, on or about July 22, 2008, Ray, while brandishing a firearm, entered the Gould Post Office in Gould, Arkansas. Ray then took \$200 from a United States Postal employee in that office.

“Our office and the Postal Inspection Service take all criminal interruptions to U.S. Postal business seriously. The fact that only \$200 was taken from the Gould Post Office does not diminish the significance of this matter in any way. This was an armed robbery during which postal employees and/or postal customers could have easily been injured or killed,” stated Duke.

If convicted of the postal robbery charge, Ray could be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 25 years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, or both. If convicted of brandishing the firearm during the postal robbery, Ray could be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years and up to life imprisonment, to be served consecutive to any sentence on the postal robbery charge. However, before imposing any sentence, the court would have to consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines, as well as factors set forth at 18 U.S.C. §3553.

This investigation was conducted by the United States Postal Service and the Pine Bluff Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Julie Peters Pekron will prosecute this case for the United States.

###

An indictment is a form of accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.