

December 13, 2006

**FORMER LAKE GENEVA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SEVEN BANK  
ROBBERIES THROUGHOUT NORTHERN ILLINOIS**

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and CHET EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

**RANDAL SCOT CASTILLO**, 52 (DOB: 9/21/54), formerly of 1127 Bonnie Brae Lane, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, pled guilty in federal court today to robbing seven banks throughout northern Illinois. Castillo was indicted on March 7, 2006 by a federal grand jury in Rockford and charged with the February 21, 2006 robbery of Northwest Bank, 4932 North Second Street, Loves Park, Illinois.

At the time of Castillo's plea, he admitted that on June 20, 2005, he robbed the National City Bank located at 202 West Center Street, Grayslake, Illinois. Castillo approached two bank tellers and announced that this was a robbery. He told the tellers he had a gun, and ordered them to give him all of the money in their drawers. Defendant gathered \$7, 275.00 from the tellers and fled the bank.

Castillo admitted that on January 24, 2006, he robbed the National City Bank at 66 East Grand Avenue, Fox Lake, Illinois. He approached a bank teller and demanded money. The teller took \$3,424.00 out of her drawer and placed it on the counter. Defendant grabbed this cash and placed it inside his plastic gift bag and fled the bank.

Castillo pleaded guilty to the January 26, 2006, robbery of the First Midwest Bank located at 41 South Lake Street, Grayslake, Illinois. He demanded that the teller give him the bank's money. The teller responded by giving Castillo \$3,990.00 from her cash drawer. Castillo placed this cash inside a plastic bag and walked out of the bank's front door.

According to his plea agreement, on February 1, 2006, Castillo robbed the Community Trust Bank at 1868 East Route 120, Grayslake, Illinois. He approached a bank teller, demanded money and said, "I don't want to have to shoot anyone. I have a scanner." Several tellers retrieved a total of \$5,136.00 from their cash drawers and placed it inside a plastic bag that the defendant carried in his hands. After he obtained all of the money, the

defendant walked out of the bank through the front door.

Castillo admitted that on February 8, 2006, while armed with a socket wrench, he robbed the State Bank of the Lakes in McHenry, Illinois. Castillo ordered the tellers to give him the bank's money. The tellers complied and gave him \$4,029.00. Once Castillo obtained cash from the tellers, he fled the bank.

Castillo pleaded guilty to the February 10, 2006 robbery of the Alpine Bank located at 2218 North Mulford Road, Rockford, Illinois. During the robbery, Castillo acted as if he had a portable radio in his hand and pretended to talk into the radio to an accomplice. Defendant yelled, "we have scanners and rifles outside pointed at you" and "I want twenties, fifties and hundreds." One of the bank tellers took a black plastic bag from the defendant and filled it with \$14,850 in bank funds. The defendant retrieved this bag from a teller and ordered the employees not to do anything for five minutes. He then walked out of the front door.

Castillo admitted that on February 21, 2006, he robbed the Northwest Bank located at 4932 North Second Street, Loves Park, Illinois. During the robbery, Castillo raised his arm and positioned his hand in a way that made it appear as if was holding a handgun and demanded money. Bank employees responded by emptying the contents of two separate teller drawers containing a total of \$14,869.00 into two black paper bags and handed them to the defendant. The defendant grabbed these money bags and ran outside to a car parked outside. Loves Park police officers responded to the bank alarm and transmitted a description of the defendant and his vehicle to other police officers in the area. Minutes later, two Rock Valley College police officers stopped the defendant's car in rural Winnebago County. During the stop, the defendant admitted that he robbed the bank and was promptly arrested.

Castillo is being held in federal custody awaiting his sentencing hearing which is scheduled for April 20, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. Castillo faces a maximum potential sentence of 20 years in prison without parole, and a fine of up to \$250,000 for each bank robbery. His actual sentence will be determined by a United States District Court Judge, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by the Rockford office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the City of Rockford Police Department, the Loves Park Police Department, the Grayslake Police Department, the Rock Valley College Police Department and McHenry County Sheriff's Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Mark T. Karner.