



## U.S. Department of Justice

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### **ROCKFORD MAN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 53 YEARS FOR ARMED ROBBERIES OF ALPINE AND ASSOCIATED BANKS IN ROCKFORD**

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:

Today, United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard sentenced **CORVET T. WILLIAMS**, 25 of Rockford, to a total of 53 years and 10 months imprisonment for the August 23, 2006 armed robbery of the Alpine Bank inside the Logli's supermarket located at 2642 Charles Street, and the September 5, 2006 armed robbery of the Associated Bank located at 3402 N. Main Street in Rockford. After a five day jury trial, Williams and Brian D. Austin, 25 and also of Rockford, were found guilty on October 26, 2007 of both robberies, as well as two counts each of using a firearm during a crime of violence. **WILLIAMS**, who qualified as a "career offender" under the United States Sentencing Guidelines because of two prior felony drug trafficking convictions, was sentenced to 262 months of imprisonment for both robberies, those sentences to run concurrently with each other, as well as 84 months of imprisonment for the first use of a firearm conviction, and 300 months of imprisonment for the second use of a firearm conviction, both of which were ordered to run consecutively to the sentences for the armed robbery convictions and to each other. Thus, **WILLIAMS'** total, non-paroleable federal sentence is 646 months (or 53 years and 10 months) of imprisonment.

Evidence presented at trial established that on August 23, 2006, Austin and Williams entered the Alpine Bank inside the Logli's supermarket on Charles Street at approximately 12:40 p.m. They wore masks and black gloves and were both armed with firearms. Austin jumped the teller counter and emptied the teller drawers while Williams held customers and bank employees at gunpoint. Thirteen days later, on September 5, 2006, Austin and Williams robbed the Associated Bank at 3402 N. Main Street in nearly identical fashion. At approximately 10:40 a.m. that day, they entered the bank wearing masks and black gloves, and they were again both armed with firearms. Austin again jumped the teller counter and emptied the teller drawers while Williams held customers and bank employees at gunpoint. Austin and Williams have been in federal custody since their arrests.

Sentencing for Brian Austin has been scheduled for next Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

The case was investigated by the Rockford Office of the FBI and the Rockford Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorneys Michael F. Iasparro and Joseph C. Pedersen.