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News Release

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Mankato man sentenced in connection to Minnesota State University credit union robbery

MINNEAPOLIS – Earlier today in federal court, Anthony Akiti, age 24, of Mankato, was sentenced to 97 months in prison for driving the getaway car during the December 16, 2010, robbery of the Affinity Plus Credit Union located on the campus of Minnesota State University in Mankato. In sentencing Akiti, United States District Court Judge Patrick J. Schiltz called Akiti a “bully,” who had “no regard for the law.” On May 25, 2011, a jury convicted Akiti of one count of armed credit union robbery and one count of obstruction of justice.

According to the evidence presented at trial, Akiti drove the getaway car after co-defendant Chop Nguot Tang stole \$17,078.51 from the credit union at gunpoint. Akiti concealed a portion of the robbery proceeds in his apartment and, after he was arrested, directed his wife to get rid of the money.

A law enforcement affidavit filed in the case indicated that during the robbery, Chop Nguot Tang approached a teller, showed her a handgun, and demanded money. He then went to two other tellers, again demanding cash. Upon stuffing the money into a black bag, he left the premises on foot. Responding to the robbery call, police officers followed a set of footprints in the snow to an apartment complex. There, witnesses reported they had seen a man running down a nearby hill to a waiting white Cadillac. After the man threw a black bag into the car, he jumped in, and the car left the area. Police later learned that Akiti owned the vehicle. They arrested him at his residence. Tang was arrested on December 22, 2010.

On July 8, 2011, Tang, age 23, also of Mankato, was sentenced to 60 months in prison on one count of armed bank robbery. He was indicted on February 8, 2011, and pleaded guilty on April 8, 2011. In his plea agreement, Tang admitted stealing \$17,078.51 from the credit union while brandishing a handgun.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Mankato Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly M. Hare.

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