

# NEWS

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United States Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey  
401 Market Street, Fourth Floor  
Camden, New Jersey 08101

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***Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney***

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***More Information?*** Contact the Assistant U.S. Attorney or other contact listed below to see if more information is available.

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## Mercer County Man Pleads Guilty to String of Bank Robberies

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(More)

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**Breaking News (NJ) <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nj/press/index.html>**

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CAMDEN – A Hamilton Township man admitted today to committing several southern New Jersey bank robberies, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Michael Swift, 56, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Renée Marie Bumb to a one-count Information, which charges bank robbery. Judge Bumb continued the defendant's detention and scheduled sentencing for Aug. 4. Swift has been detained since his arrest on Jan. 21, 2008, by Police Officers with the Moorestown Police Department and Special Agents with the FBI.

At his plea hearing, Swift admitted that from September 2007 through January 2008 he committed a three bank robberies in Southern New Jersey. During the bank robberies, Swift possessed and used a plastic toy pistol to threaten bank employees, he admitted.

The Information to which Swift pleaded guilty charges him with the Jan. 11, 2008, robbery of a Wachovia Bank branch in Moorestown of \$13,500. Swift also admitted robbing a Wachovia Bank branch in Audubon of \$5,950 on Sept. 21, 2007, and a PNC Bank branch in Clementon of \$9,710 on Nov. 15, 2007.

The charge of bank robbery carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Bumb will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the FBI's Trenton Resident Agency and the South Jersey Resident Agency, under the direction of Special Agents in Charge Weysan Dun, in Newark, and Janice K. Fedarck, in Philadelphia, respectively, and Investigators with the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction of Prosecutor Robert D. Bernardi, the Camden County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction of Acting Prosecutor Joshua M. Ottenberg, and Police Officers with the Police Departments of Cherry Hill, Moorestown, Audubon and Gloucester Township.

The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason M. Richardson of the Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense Attorney: Lori M. Koch, Esq. Assistant Federal Public Defender