



***United States Attorney
District of New Jersey***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2010

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**TITUSVILLE, NEW JERSEY MAN CHARGED WITH ROBBING
PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY BANK**

TRENTON, N.J. – A Titusville, N.J. man appeared in Trenton federal court this morning after being charged with the August 8, 2010, robbery of a TD Bank in Pennington, N.J., United States Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Christopher Kerins, 53, is charged by Complaint with one count of bank robbery. He was detained pending his transfer to federal custody following this morning's proceeding before United States Magistrate Judge Tonianne J. Bongiovanni.

According to the Complaint filed in this case:

Kerins arrived at the TD Bank shortly after it opened, walked quickly over to a bank teller, and threw a black garbage bag over the counter, saying, "I have a gun. Put money in the bag quickly." The teller emptied her drawer into the bag, including marked bait money, and tripped the silent alarm.

A civilian saw Kerins running from the area carrying the garbage bag and wrote down the license plate of the car in which he fled. The civilian provided the plate number to employees of the bank and the information was called in to police, who broadcast an alert for the vehicle which led to Kerins' detention by local police.

If convicted of the bank robbery charge, Kerins faces a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000. Kerins also faces up to an additional three years in prison for violating the terms of his supervised release following a previous federal conviction.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited the FBI, under the direction of Michael B. Ward in Newark, along with the Pennington Borough Police Department, Hopewell Township Police Department, and the U.S. Probation Office – District of New Jersey for the work leading to the identification and apprehension of the defendant.

The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorney Robert G. Marasco of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division.

The charges and allegations contained in the Complaint are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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Defense counsel: Andrea Bergman, Esq., Federal Public Defender