

NEWS

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Mount Royal Man Pleads Guilty to Committing Eight Bank Robberies in
Southern New Jersey and Delaware

(More)

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CAMDEN – A Mount Royal man pleaded guilty today to federal bank robbery charges, admitting he committed eight bank robberies in southern New Jersey and Delaware, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Brian S. Layton, 48, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Jerome B. Simandle to an eight-count Information, charging him with bank robbery. Judge Simandle continued the defendant's detention without bond pending sentencing, which is scheduled for May 27.

At his plea hearing, Layton admitted robbing the following banks:

- Sept. 19, 2008, a WSFS Bank in Wilmington, Del., of \$2,102;
- Oct. 10, 2008, a TD Bank in Blackwood of \$3,550;
- Dec. 22, 2008, a Sun National Bank in Glendora of \$4,606;
- Feb. 2, 2009, a TD Bank in Hi-Nella of \$2,749;
- March 23, 2009, a Newfield National Bank in Franklin of \$8,548;
- May 15, 2009, The Bank in Carneys Point of \$20,400;
- July 28, 2009, a Sturdy Bank in Ocean City of \$3,829;
- Sept. 25, 2009, The Bank in Carneys Point of \$12,148.

Layton admitted that for each robbery, he approached a teller and demanded money, during which he threatened and intimidated the teller in order to get the teller to give him money. Furthermore, Layton admitted that during the final robbery, he possessed a pellet gun during the course of the robbery.

Layton was apprehended on Sept. 25, 2009, after fleeing from a New Jersey State Trooper on the Garden State Parkway. At the time of his arrest, Layton was in possession of the proceeds of the Sept. 25, 2009 robbery.

Each of the eight counts carries a maximum statutory sentence of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Simandle will consult the advisory United States 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.

Fishman credited Special Agents of the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Janice K. Fedarcyk in Philadelphia and Acting Special Agent in Charge Kevin B. Cruise in Newark, State Trooper with the N.J. State Police, under the direction of Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes, Superintendent, and police officers with the police departments in the effected towns, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Skahill of the U.S. Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Newark.

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