

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 31, 2007

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<u>U.S. CHARGES ALBANIAN NATIONAL</u> WITH ARMED ROBBERY OF A CHASE BANK IN LARCHMONT

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ELTON KULLI was charged in White Plains federal court with the gunpoint robbery of the Chase Bank on Boston Post Road in Larchmont, New York. Late yesterday, United States Magistrate Judge LISA MARGARET SMITH ordered that KULLI be detained pending trial.

As alleged in the Complaint charging KULLI, he committed the armed robbery early on the morning of July 30, 2007. KULLI held several bank employees at gunpoint, had them open the bank's vault, and directed them to fill a bag with money. Shortly after the robbery, KULLI was apprehended, in a parked car near the bank, by Larchmont police on patrol in the area. A handgun and a bag of money were found in the car.

KULLI is charged in the Complaint with: (a) one count of armed bank robbery, which carries, upon conviction, a maximum of 25 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the offense; and (b) one count of using and carrying a firearm during and in relation to the bank robbery, which carries, upon conviction, a minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the offense.

During the court proceeding, KULLI said he was 23 years old, an unemployed construction worker, and an Albanian national.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the Larchmont Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney BRENT WIBLE is in charge of the prosecution.

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

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