

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL NO.</b>	<b>07-238(01)</b>
<b>v.</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>DATE FILED:</b>	<b>October 30, 2007</b>
<b>RODERICK WATSON,</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VIOLATIONS:</b>	
<b>a/k/a "Smells,"</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1951(a) (conspiracy to</b>	<b>interfere with interstate commerce by</b>
<b>a/k/a "Michael Johnson,"</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>robbery - 1 count)</b>	
<b>a/k/a "Michael L. Johnson"</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1951(a) (interference with</b>	<b>interstate commerce by robbery - 4</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>counts)</b>	
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(A) (using and</b>	<b>carrying a firearm during a crime of</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>violence - 2 counts)</b>	
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 2314 (interstate trans-</b>	<b>portation of stolen goods – 1 count)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 2 (aiding and abetting)</b>	
		<b>Notices of forfeiture</b>	

**SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT**

**COUNT ONE**

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this Superseding Indictment:

1. The Whitehall Company Jewelers store, located inside the Moorestown Mall, 400 Route 38, in Moorestown, New Jersey, was a business engaged in and affecting interstate commerce.
2. The NMG Gold Exchange jewelry store, located at 2204 Ridge Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was a business engaged in and affecting interstate commerce.
3. The Sally Beauty Supply store, located at 2401 Venango Street, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was a business engaged in and affecting interstate commerce.

4. The A-Plus Sunoco Store, located at 3200 Richmond Street, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was a business engaged in and affecting interstate commerce.

**THE ROBBERY CONSPIRACY**

5. From in or around August, 2003 until on or about December 23, 2004, in Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

conspired and agreed with others known and unknown to the grand jury, including Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis, all charged elsewhere, to commit robberies, which robberies would unlawfully obstruct, delay and affect commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, in that defendant WATSON conspired to unlawfully take and obtain jewelry and money from the person and presence of others and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to their person and property, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a), (b)(1), and (b)(3).

**MANNER AND MEANS**

It was part of the conspiracy that:

6. Defendant RODERICK WATSON organized a gang of criminal associates, including Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis, all charged elsewhere, and others known and unknown to the grand jury (referred to below as “the gang”), to steal jewelry from jewelry stores and money from other stores, during regular business hours.

7. The gang traveled from Philadelphia to various locations in Pennsylvania and New Jersey to commit the robberies.

8. Prior to the robbery, gang members generally traveled to the area near the victim store in one or more vehicles, then stole a vehicle to use as a getaway car. While one or more gang members entered the store to commit the robbery, one member of the gang remained in the car as a getaway driver.

9. One or more of the gang members, usually defendant RODERICK WATSON, entered the victim store immediately before the robbery, located the cash register, or, in the case of a victim jewelry store, located the jewelry that the gang should steal, and then told the other gang members that information.

10. When robbing the victim jewelry stores, the gang sometimes committed “smash and grab” thefts of jewelry by smashing interior glass display counters with hammers, and collecting the stolen jewelry into a bag.

11. The defendants robbed the three victim stores listed in paragraphs 1 through 3, above, and stole jewelry with a retail value in excess of \$5,000 and more than \$500 in cash.

12. Defendant RODERICK WATSON transported the stolen jewelry back to Philadelphia to “fence” or sell the stolen items to a Philadelphia jeweler.

13. The Philadelphia jeweler paid defendant RODERICK WATSON in cash for the jewelry.

14. Defendant RODERICK WATSON paid the gang members for their participation in the robberies.

15. Defendant RODERICK WATSON paid the bail of gang members on occasions when they were arrested.

### **OVERT ACTS**

In furtherance of the conspiracy, defendant RODERICK WATSON and others known and unknown to the grand jury committed the following overt acts, among others, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere:

#### **Whitehall Company Jewelers, Moorestown, New Jersey**

On or about June 4, 2002:

1. Defendant RODERICK WATSON drove Jerome Jeter, and two males known to the grand jury (“Individual A” and “Individual B”) from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the Moorestown Mall, in Moorestown, New Jersey, in a car to commit a “smash and grab” robbery of a jewelry store.

2. Defendant RODERICK WATSON provided hammers, gloves, and walkie-talkies to Jerome Jeter, Individual A, and Individual B, for use in committing the “smash and grab” robbery of the Whitehall Company Jewelers inside the Moorestown Mall, in Moorestown, New Jersey.

3. Jerome Jeter stole a car from the parking lot outside the Moorestown Mall for use as the getaway car and acted as the getaway driver.

4. Individuals A and B entered the jewelry store, smashed jewelry display cases with the hammers provided by defendant RODERICK WATSON, stole approximately \$33,096 in jewelry, and put the jewelry and cash in a bag.

5. Individuals A and B fled to the stolen getaway car driven by Jerome Jeter, who drove them to the car in which defendant RODERICK WATSON was waiting.

6. Defendant RODERICK WATSON, Jerome Jeter, and Individuals A and B returned to Philadelphia in the car, where defendant WATSON sold the jewelry to a Philadelphia jeweler, and paid the gang members for their participation in the robbery.

**NMG Gold Exchange, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

On or about August 15, 2003:

7. Defendant RODERICK WATSON drove Jerome Jeter and a male unknown to the grand jury to the vicinity of the 2200 block of Ridge Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in a Chevrolet bearing Pennsylvania plate FGN 3760, owned by the wife of defendant WATSON, to commit a robbery of a jewelry store.

8. Defendant RODERICK WATSON, Jerome Jeter, and the unknown male entered the NMG Gold Exchange at 2204 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, jumped over the counter, stole approximately \$5,000 in jewelry, and put it in a bag.

9. Defendant RODERICK WATSON, Jerome Jeter, and the unknown male fled to the Chevrolet.

10. Defendant RODERICK WATSON drove the Chevrolet away from the jewelry store after the robbery.

11. During his flight from the jewelry store, defendant RODERICK WATSON, recognizing that a witness at the jewelry store had seen the license plate of the Chevrolet, called his wife and directed her to make a false report to the police that her Chevrolet had been stolen.

12. After the robbery, defendant RODERICK WATSON sold the jewelry to a Philadelphia jeweler, and paid the gang members for their participation in the robbery.

**Sally Beauty Supply, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

On or about December 23, 2004:

13. Defendant RODERICK WATSON drove a van to pick up Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis to commit a “smash and grab” robbery of a jewelry store.

14. Jerome Jeter stole a Jeep Grand Cherokee for use as a getaway car.

15. Defendant RODERICK WATSON provided hammers, masks, and gloves to Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis for use in committing a “smash and grab” robbery of a jewelry store.

16. Defendant RODERICK WATSON provided Jerome Jeter with a firearm, that is, a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, for use in the robbery.

17. Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis arrived at a jewelry store on Venango Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the stolen Jeep Cherokee, but decided not to rob the jewelry store because the store personnel might be armed.

18. Defendant RODERICK WATSON directed Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis via walkie-talkie to rob the Sally Beauty Supply store next door to the jewelry store.

19. Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis arrived in the stolen Jeep Cherokee at the Sally Beauty Supply store located at 2401 Venango Street, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, while defendant RODERICK WATSON waited nearby in the van.

20. At approximately 3:30 p.m., at the direction of defendant RODERICK WATSON, Jerome Jeter and Mikal Blakely entered the Sally Beauty Supply store with a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, for the purpose of committing armed robbery. During the robbery, Jeter attempted to disguise his appearance, brandished the revolver, and demanded money from the store employees.

21. Jerome Jeter and Mikal Blakely stole approximately \$136 in cash from the store employees, and fled the store with Maurice Davis in the stolen Jeep Cherokee.

**A-Plus Sunoco Store, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

22. Later the same day, on or about December 23, 2004, after obtaining money from an employee of the Sally Beauty Supply store, Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis followed defendant RODERICK WATSON to the A-Plus Sunoco Store located at 3200 Richmond Street in Philadelphia.

23. Defendant RODERICK WATSON entered the A-Plus Sunoco Store, determined the location of the registers, relayed this information to Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis, and directed them to rob the A-Plus Sunoco Store.

24. At the direction of defendant RODERICK WATSON, Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis entered the A-Plus Sunoco Store to commit an armed robbery.

25. Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis attempted to conceal their identities by disguising themselves.

26. Jerome Jeter carried the Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, that had been provided by defendant RODERICK WATSON, into the A-Plus Sunoco Store and

brandished the revolver, as Mikal Blakely and Maurice Davis stole money out of the cash registers.

27. After obtaining money from the A-Plus Sunoco Store, Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis fled the store in the stolen Jeep Grand Cherokee.

28. The police chased the stolen Jeep Grand Cherokee in which Jerome Jeter, Mikal Blakely, and Maurice Davis had fled. During the high-speed chase that followed, defendant RODERICK WATSON attempted without success to prevent the police from stopping the stolen Jeep Grand Cherokee by driving the van between the police cars and the Jeep Grand Cherokee.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a).

**COUNT TWO**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1 and Overt Acts 1 through 6 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about June 4, 2002, in the District of New Jersey, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a "Smells,"  
a/k/a "Michael Johnson,"  
a/k/a "Michael L. Johnson,"**

obstructed, delayed, and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, and attempted to do so, by robbery, in that defendant WATSON unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted and willfully caused the unlawful taking and obtaining of, property, that is, jewelry valued at approximately \$33,096, from the person and presence of employees of the Whitehall Company Jewelers, inside the Moorestown Mall, 400 Route 38, in Moorestown, New Jersey, against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future to their person and property, and property in their custody and possession belonging to the store, that is, by smashing the display counters and grabbing jewelry.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT THREE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

- 1 Paragraph 2 and Overt Acts 7 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about August 15, 2003, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

obstructed, delayed, and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, and attempted to do so, by robbery, in that defendant WATSON unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, property, that is, jewelry valued at approximately \$5,000, from the person and presence of employees of the NMG Gold Exchange jewelry store, 2204 Ridge Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future to their person and property, and property in their custody and possession belonging to the store, that is, by jumping over the display counters and grabbing the jewelry inside.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT FOUR**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this indictment:

1. Paragraph 3 and Overt Acts 13 through 21 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about December 23, 2004, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

obstructed, delayed, and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, and attempted to do so, by robbery, in that defendant WATSON unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted and willfully caused the unlawful taking and obtaining of, property, that is, approximately \$136 in cash, from the person and presence of employees of the Sally Beauty Supply store, located at 2401 Venango Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future to their person and property, and property in their custody and possession belonging to the store, that is, by pointing a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver at them and demanding cash.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT FIVE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 3 and Overt Acts 13 through 21 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about December 23, 2004, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted and willfully caused the use and carrying of, a firearm, that is, a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, during and in relation to a crime of violence for which he may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery and interference with interstate commerce by robbery, and aiding and abetting interference with interstate commerce by robbery, as charged in Count Four of this indictment.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT SIX**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this indictment:

1. Paragraph 4 and Overt Acts 22 through 28 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about December 23, 2004, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a "Smells,"  
a/k/a "Michael Johnson,"  
a/k/a "Michael L. Johnson,"**

obstructed, delayed, and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, and attempted to do so, by robbery, in that defendant WATSON unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted and willfully caused the unlawful taking and obtaining of, property, that is, cash, from the person and presence of employees of the A-Plus Sunoco Store, located at 3200 Richmond Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to their person and property, and property in their custody and possession belonging to the store, that is, by pointing a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, and demanding cash.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT SEVEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 4 and Overt Acts 22 through 28 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about December 23, 2004, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a "Smells,"  
a/k/a "Michael Johnson,"  
a/k/a "Michael L. Johnson,"**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted and willfully caused the use and carrying of, a firearm, that is, a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271, during and in relation to a crime of violence for which he may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery and interference with interstate commerce by robbery, and aiding and abetting interference with interstate commerce by robbery, as charged in Count Six of this indictment.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT EIGHT**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

On or about August 30, 2007, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

unlawfully transported in interstate commerce from Chesapeake, Virginia, to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, goods and merchandise with a value in excess of \$5,000, that is, three men’s Rolex watches with a value of approximately \$24,325, and aided and abetted the transportation of such goods and merchandise, knowing the same to have been stolen, converted and taken by fraud.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2314 and 2.

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**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. As a result of the violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2314, set forth in this Superseding Indictment, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

shall forfeit to the United States of America any property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of such offense, including, but not limited to, the sum of \$24,325, and:

- (a) A men’s Rolex watch bearing serial number D993405;
- (b) A men’s Rolex watch bearing serial number Z417348; and
- (c) A men’s Rolex watch bearing serial number D608047.

2. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- (a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (b) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- (c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or

(e) has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided  
without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to  
the value of the property subject to forfeiture.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and Title 18,  
United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C).

**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

As a result of the violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c), set forth in this Superseding Indictment, defendant

**RODERICK WATSON,  
a/k/a “Smells,”  
a/k/a “Michael Johnson,”  
a/k/a “Michael L. Johnson,”**

shall forfeit to the United States of America the firearm and ammunition involved in the commission of such offense, including but not limited to:

a loaded Colt .38 caliber revolver, serial number 893271,

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(d).

**A TRUE BILL:**

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**FOREPERSON**

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN**  
**United States Attorney**