

U.S. Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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ARMED ROBBER CONVICTED OF ARMORED CAR HOLDUP

PHILADELPHIA - Anthony Reid, a/k/a "Spooks," 45, of Philadelphia, was convicted today of all charged in connection with the armed robbery of an armored car in September 2009, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger. Reid, along with Brian Williams, a/k/a "Jimmy," was charged with conspiracy to commit robbery which interfered with interstate commerce, robbery which interfered with interstate commerce, using and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence, and being convicted felons in possession of firearms. Williams pleaded guilty last week.

The defendants, who are both armed career criminals, robbed a Pendum LLC armored car guard as the guard was making a cash delivery to the automated teller machines at the Sunoco APlus gas station and convenience store, located at 301 South 52nd Street in Philadelphia. As they escaped from police, Williams fired at the officers who were in pursuit. They were caught after crashing their car into a parked vehicle at 63rd and Grays Avenue. The evidence showed that Reid then pointed his firearm at approaching officers who shot and injured Reid. During the gunfire, one officer was struck in the face by a bullet and was hospitalized. Reid faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, with a minimum mandatory of 25-years, when sentenced May 16, 2011.

This investigation and prosecution was part of *Project Safe Neighborhoods*, a joint initiative by the United States Attorney's Office, each of the nine District Attorney's Offices in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute dangerous firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction. As an extension of Project Safe Neighborhoods, the United States Attorney's Office and the FBI established the *Hobbs Act Robbery Task Force* to investigate and prosecute organized gangs and groups committing commercial armed robberies in this district.

This case has been investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Philadelphia Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas M. Zaleski.

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