
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. Mark Falk
:
v. : Mag. No. 18-3679
:
FRANK MELETTI : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

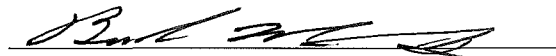
I, Brandon M. Lackey, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

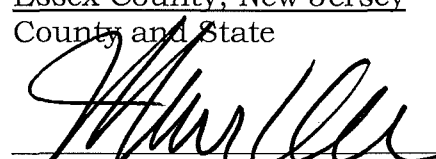
SEE ATTACHMENT B

continued on the attached page and made a part hereof.


Brandon M. Lackey, Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

August 10, 2018 at
Date

Honorable Mark Falk
United States Magistrate Judge
Name and Title of Judicial Officer

Essex County, New Jersey
County and State

Signature of Judicial Officer

ATTACHMENT A

COUNT ONE

(Attempted Bank Robbery)

On or about August 10, 2018, in Essex County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

FRANK MELETTI

did, by intimidation and force and violence, knowingly attempt to take from the person and presence of others, namely, employees of Investors Bank, located in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, money belonging to, and in the care, custody, control, management, and possession of Investors Bank, the deposits of which were then insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2113(a) and 2.

ATTACHMENT B

I, Brandon Lackey, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein based on my own investigation, my conversations with witnesses and other law enforcement officers, and my review of reports, documents, and items of evidence. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and in part. Because this complaint is being submitted for a limited purpose, I have not set forth each and every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.

Background

1. At all times relevant to this Complaint, the defendant Frank Meletti ("MELETTI") resided in Hoboken, New Jersey.

2. On or about June 23, 2009, MELETTI was convicted in the District of New Jersey of bank robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(a). Defendant MELETTI was sentenced on that charge to 120 months' imprisonment. Defendant MELETTI began a term of 5 years' supervised release on that charge in or around December 2016.

Investigation

3. On or about August 4, 2018, MELETTI asked a Confidential Informant ("CI") to assist him in executing a bank robbery. Specifically, MELETTI asked the CI to act as his getaway driver, writing in an online message, "I'm READY to do what we've talked about. Need driver. Easy."

4. On or about August 7, 2018, MELETTI provided the CI details about the bank robbery that he planned to commit. Specifically, MELETTI informed the CI that the target bank was the Investors Bank located in Cedar Grove, New Jersey. MELETTI provided the CI with instructions regarding a proposed escape route. MELETTI told the CI that, on the day of the robbery, the CI was to park his car in a lot adjacent to the Investors Bank and wait for MELETTI to return after robbing the bank. MELETTI asked the CI if the CI had a gun, and the CI responded that he did not.

5. On or about August 9, 2018 and in preparation for the bank robbery, the CI picked up MELETTI at his residence and the two drove to the Investors Bank in Cedar Grove. MELETTI directed the CI to go inside the Investors Bank to investigate the security mechanisms in place, specifically, whether the bank had an armed guard and/or magnetic locks on the exterior doors. MELETTI stated, in sum and substance, that it was better for the CI, and not MELETTI, to go inside the bank so that MELETTI would not be captured on

the bank's security camera. MELETTI instructed the CI to pick him up for the robbery the next day at approximately 9:00 A.M., and stated that the robbery would take place by approximately 10:00 A.M.

6. On or about August 10, 2018, the CI picked up MELETTI at the agreed upon time. In the car, MELETTI drafted multiple versions of a demand note for the bank robbery. The CI asked MELETTI if he was sure that he wanted to go through with the plan, and MELETTI responded affirmatively.

7. MELETTI and the CI parked in the parking lot adjacent to the bank at approximately 10:05 A.M. MELETTI was wearing dark sunglasses and a black hat, as well as black sweatpants and a black sweatshirt.

8. MELETTI exited the car and approached the bank, carrying in his pocket the final version of the demand note, which stated, in sum and substance, "Place money in bag. No dye. No cops. No alarms." MELETTI also carried a bag for the proceeds of the bank robbery.

9. MELETTI approached the front entrance to the Investors Bank and attempted to open it. MELETTI tugged on the door multiple times and looked through the windows, whereupon he was arrested.