

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
District of New Jersey

United States of America )

v. )

NATHAN L. WALLACE )

Case No. 17-2001 (JS)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Defendant(s)*

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of October 11, 2016 in the county of Cumberland in the  
\_\_\_\_\_  
District of New Jersey, the defendant(s) violated:

*Code Section*

Title 18, United States Code,  
Sections 2113(a) and 2

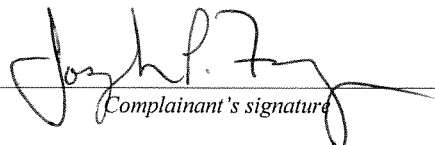
*Offense Description*

Obtaining by force, violence, and intimidation money from the person or  
presence of another belonging to and in the care, custody, control,  
management, and possession of a bank whose deposits were then insured  
by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See Attachment B (Affidavit)

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.

  
*Complainant's signature*

Joseph P. Furey, FBI Special Agent  
*Printed name and title*

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 02/14/2017

  
*Judge's signature*

City and state: Camden, New Jersey

Hon. Joel Schneider, U.S. Magistrate Judge  
*Printed name and title*

# CONTENTS APPROVED

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By: /s/ *Gabriel J. Vidoni*  
Gabriel J. Vidoni, Assistant U.S. Attorney

Date: February 14, 2017

**Attachment A**

On or about October 11, 2016, in Cumberland County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant

NATHAN L. WALLACE

knowingly, by force and violence, and by intimidation, did take from an employee and presence of an employee of Cape Bank, a Division of Ocean First Bank, 1245 Highway 77, Upper Deerfield Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey (hereafter "Cape Bank"), approximately \$24,926 belonging to, and in the care, custody, control, management, and possession of Cape Bank, the deposits of which were then insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(a), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

**Attachment B**

**COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT**

I, Joseph P. Furey, a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), have knowledge of the following facts based on my own investigation and conversations with other individuals involved in this investigation. I have not included in this affidavit all of the facts known to me. Rather, I have included only those facts which I believe are necessary to establish probable cause.

1. I have been employed as an FBI Special Agent for approximately twenty-nine years. I am currently assigned to the Atlantic City Resident Agency ("ACRA") of the Newark Division, located in Northfield, New Jersey, where I investigate violent crimes, including bank robberies. Over the course of my career as a Special Agent, I have investigated numerous bank robberies and developed extensive experience in this area of criminal investigation.

2. During the month of October 2016 and on earlier dates, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, were involved in an ongoing investigation into a series of bank and retail robberies occurring in and around southern New Jersey.

3. On Tuesday, October 11, 2016, the New Jersey State Police ("NJSP") alerted the FBI that two individuals robbed Cape Bank, a Division of Ocean First Bank, 1245 Highway 77, Upper Deerfield Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey (hereafter "Cape Bank").<sup>1</sup>

4. Members of the NJSP and an agent from the FBI responded to the location and conducted an initial investigation. Investigators obtained the following information based on

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<sup>1</sup> Cape Bank now operates under the name First Ocean Bank; its signage has been changed accordingly. At the time of the robbery, however, the bank used the name Cape Bank, a Division of Ocean First Bank. For purposes of this affidavit, I refer to the bank as Cape Bank throughout.

witness interviews and a review of security camera recordings from the date and time of the robbery:

5. At approximately 2:55 p.m. on October 11, 2016, two individuals entered the bank through the East entrance. Witnesses described the first suspect (hereafter “Individual-1”) as a black male, dressed in a black hooded sweatshirt, with the hood raised, black pants, grey or white gloves, and black sneakers with white trim around the soles. Images from security camera footage are consistent with this description and appear to show that Individual-1 also concealed his face with a black mask.

6. After entering the bank, Individual-1 crouched next to a small potted plant near the entrance and pointed what appeared to be a black revolver at employees.

7. Witnesses described the second suspect (hereafter “Individual-2”) as a black male who was wearing black gloves, a dark “zip-up” hooded sweatshirt, also with the hood raised, a black “beanie,” and a black scarf wrapped around his face. Individual-2 carried a draw string bag.

8. After entering the bank, Individual-2 approached the teller stations and demanded money from employees. In response, employees removed currency from the teller drawers and placed it inside Individual-2’s bag as directed.

9. Thereafter, Individual-1 and Individual-2 exited the bank through the same doorway they had entered. A moment later, employees observed a tan/gold colored vehicle with a black soft-top rapidly exit the parking lot and make a right turn onto Big Oak Road in the direction of Vineland City, New Jersey. One of the employees captured several pictures through the bank’s drive-through window using the camera on his/her cellular telephone. A bank security camera also captured images of the vehicle as it exited the parking lot.

10. In total, Cape Bank suffered a monetary loss of approximately \$24,926. At the time the robbery occurred, and at all times relevant to this affidavit, the deposits of Cape Bank were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”).

11. An analysis of the images taken by the bank employee and bank security cameras on October 11, 2016 indicated to myself and other investigators that the vehicle observed exiting the parking lot immediately following the robbery was identical in appearance to a Chrysler Sebring that had been reported stolen during a carjacking on September 22, 2016 in the parking lot of a Wal-Mart in Mays Landing, New Jersey.<sup>2</sup>

12. The following Saturday, on October 15, 2016 at approximately 2:17 a.m., NJSP troopers responded to a report of a vehicle fire in a parking lot located in Parvin State Park in Pittsgrove Township, New Jersey. Upon arrival, the troopers discovered an abandoned two-door sedan engulfed in flames. Fire department personnel also responded and extinguished the flames. Thereafter, a trooper examined the vehicle and located a Vehicle Identification Number (“VIN”), which he queried in a police crime reporting system. The VIN on the vehicle matched the VIN of the Chrysler Sebring that had been reported stolen in the aforementioned carjacking, and which investigators believed suspects used in the robbery of Cape Bank. Based on the condition of the vehicle, investigators believed that it had been set ablaze using an accelerant, such as gasoline, in an intentional act of arson.

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<sup>2</sup> Investigators believe that Individual-1 and/or Individual-2 utilized this same Chrysler Sebring to carry out other robberies, including a robbery of BB&T Bank, 4943 East Landis Avenue, Buena Vista Township, New Jersey on September 24, 2016 and a robbery of Newfield National Bank, 18 South West Boulevard, Newfield, New Jersey on October 7, 2016. According to witness accounts and surveillance footage, the suspect and/or suspects in those robberies utilized similar *modus operandi* as employed in the Cape Bank robbery on October 11, 2016 and left the scene in a gold/tan Chrysler Sebring vehicle with a black soft-top.

13. In furtherance of the investigation, a NJSP trooper proceeded to a nearby Wawa located on Delsea Drive in the area of Almond Road in Vineland City, which is the closest gas station to Parvin State Park and located on the same road near to where troopers discovered the vehicle fire. This Wawa is also open all hours of the day and night.

14. While at the Wawa, the NJSP trooper reviewed security camera footage. The trooper observed a taxi from the Vineland Yellow Cab Company arrive at the fuel station shortly before 1:00 a.m. A black male wearing a burgundy shirt exited the rear passenger seat and retrieved a five-gallon gas can. The male filled the gas can with gasoline, placed it into the trunk of the taxi, and returned to the passenger compartment. The taxi then departed.

15. Based on this information, troopers travelled to the office of Vineland Yellow Cab Company. An operator advised that one of the company's taxi drivers responded to a transport call on October 15, 2016 between 12:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. at 56 South West Avenue in Vineland City, New Jersey and drove a black male to a Wal-Mart Supercenter located at 1070 West Landis Avenue, Vineland City, New Jersey. A second taxi later responded to a transport call at the same Wal-Mart, picked up two black males, and drove them to the above-referenced Wawa on North Delsea Drive, Vineland City, New Jersey. The taxi driver then transported the two males back to 56 South West Avenue, Vineland City, New Jersey. The operator stated that the transport calls had been made from the following two telephone numbers: (856) 974-2730 and (856) 305-5459.

16. Troopers were able to contact the second taxi driver who transported the two males to Wawa. The driver described one of the males as "skinny" and the other as "fat." According to the driver, the "fat" male wore a Popeye's fast food restaurant uniform. The driver transported the two males to the Wawa, where they filled a gas can with fuel. The driver noted that the males

had mentioned needing gas for a new dirt bike. The driver confirmed that afterwards, he/she drove the two males back to a 56 South West Avenue.

17. NJSP troopers later traveled to the Wal-Mart Supercenter located at 1070 West Landis Avenue, Vineland City, New Jersey. An employee showed the troopers security camera video footage from October 15, 2016, wherein two black males entered the Wal-Mart and left with a red, five-gallon gas can. The two males then departed in a yellow taxi. I have since reviewed this video footage, which was taken around 12:40 a.m. In the video, the first male appeared heavier in weight than the second. The first male wore a dark red shirt, black pants, dark shoes, and a white visor, which I know to be consistent with uniforms worn by Popeye's restaurant employees. The second male wore a black hooded sweatshirt, black pants, and a red undershirt. The second male appeared to be bald or to have a shaved head. The second male carried the gas can when exiting the Wal-Mart.

18. Thereafter, investigators worked to determine the identities of these two males. A search of addresses in Vineland Police Department databases indicated past contacts with a resident named NATHAN L. WALLACE (hereafter "WALLACE") at 56 South West Avenue in Vineland City, New Jersey. Arrest records also indicated that WALLACE provided the address 56 South West Avenue, Apartment #2, Vineland City, New Jersey as his address in connection with a recent arrest for driving while intoxicated. WALLACE provided the telephone number (856) 305-5459 as his contact number, and he listed Popeye's as his employer.

19. Investigators compared a driver's license photo of WALLACE to images from the Wal-Mart Supercenter security camera footage taken on October 15, 2016 of the two males. The



driver's license photo of WALLACE closely resembled the heavier male wearing what appeared to be a Popeye's uniform.

20. Investigators also conducted a search of publicly available information on the social media platform Facebook.com. These searches involved queries of Facebook using its user-accessible search interface for known names, nicknames, and telephone numbers of targets of the investigation. Upon entering the telephone number (856) 974-2730, which was one of the numbers associated with the calls to Vineland Yellow Cab Company on October 15, 2016, into Facebook.com's search tool, investigators located a Facebook page associated with user "Quintin Jones." Further searches of state criminal history databases revealed a QUINTIN L. JONES (hereafter "JONES") with an address in Vineland City, New Jersey. Investigators obtained a driver's license photo of JONES and compared it to the Wal-Mart Supercenter security camera footage taken on October 15, 2016 of the two males. The driver's license photo of JONES closely resembled the second male who carried the gas can while exiting the Wal-Mart.

21. Investigators subsequently obtained communications data search warrants from a Cumberland County, New Jersey Superior Court Judge for the phone numbers (856) 305-5459 (believed to be utilized by WALLACE) and (856) 974-2730 (believed to be utilized by JONES). Telecommunication records provided by Sprint in response to these warrants indicated that the user of telephone number (856) 974-2730 (believed to be JONES) activated the number on October 13, 2016, two days after the robbery of the Cape Bank and two days prior to discovery of the burnt Chrysler Sebring in Parvin State Park. In addition, cell tower records indicated that around the time investigators believed the arson occurred, the telephone associated with telephone number (856) 974-2730 made contact with cell towers in the area of Parvin State Park. Call

records for the telephone number (856) 974-2730 also showed frequent contacts with telephone number (856) 305-5459 (believed to be utilized by WALLACE).

22. Further investigation revealed that on October 13, 2016, JONES checked into a Days Inn located at 1001 West Landis Avenue, Vineland City, New Jersey. At check-in, the hotel clerk assigned JONES to room 328. Hotel records associated with JONES' stay contain a photocopy of his state photo identification. JONES also signed room rental paperwork. On October 14, 2016, the hotel reassigned JONES to room 236.

23. On October 15, 2016, a Days Inn housekeeping employee attempted to enter room 236 to begin cleaning based on a belief that JONES had already checked out. Upon opening the door, the housekeeping employee observed a significant amount of cash stacked on the bed. The employee also observed a black male occupant placing some of the cash into a bag. When the male saw the employee, he began yelling, quickly walked toward the door, and abruptly shut it. The employee informed investigators that the male remained in the room for about ten more minutes. He then exited with bags. The employee stated he also took a bag of trash from the room. Afterwards, the male left the hotel.

24. On October 19, 2016, a judge from the Cumberland/Salem Regional Court authorized arrest warrants for JONES and WALLACE based on New Jersey state charges for Arson, in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:17-1 and Tampering with Evidence, in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:28-6.

25. Investigators arrested JONES at his residence in Vineland City, New Jersey. JONES invoked his *Miranda* rights and declined to speak to investigators. JONES was presented

in New Jersey state court and held on bond. JONES has been in state custody at Cumberland County Correctional Center since his arrest.

26. Investigators also arrested WALLACE at his residence in Vineland City, New Jersey. Investigators transported WALLACE to the NJSP Bridgeton Station for processing. After being advised of his *Miranda* rights, WALLACE consented to a recorded interview, during which he admitted robbing Cape Bank on October 11, 2016. WALLACE also admitted involvement in several other bank and retail robberies. WALLACE was later presented in New Jersey state court and held on bond. WALLACE has also been in state custody at Cumberland County Correctional Center since his arrest.

27. On October 20, 2016, NJSP detectives obtained a state search warrant, which authorized a search of WALLACE's residence. During the search, investigators located items including a pair of black "Timberland" sneakers with a white band around the soles, which resembled shoes worn by Individual-1 during the robbery of Cape Bank, a plastic toy revolver, a pair of camouflage gloves, a pair of black and white gloves, a black jacket with a hood, a second hooded jacket, money bands, U.S. currency, identification bearing WALLACE's name, and a grey and silver Chrysler vehicle key.<sup>3</sup> Investigators compared the Chrysler key seized at WALLACE's residence to a copy of the Chrysler Sebring key provided by the victim of the carjacking described above. The two keys were identical in appearance based on lay comparison.

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<sup>3</sup> Investigators also conducted a search of JONE's residence pursuant to a state search warrant. Investigators did not locate anything deemed to be of evidentiary significance.

28. On October 20, 2016, a Judge from the Cumberland/Salem Regional Court authorized complaints/arrest warrants charging JONES and WALLACE with, *inter alia*, Robbery, in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:15-1A(2).

29. On November 1, 2016, at approximately 11:38 p.m., a male inmate at Cumberland County Correctional Center utilized a unique pin assigned to JONES to place an outgoing collect call on a recorded prison call line.<sup>4</sup> I know based on information provided to me by staff with the Cumberland County Department of Corrections, that each inmate is assigned a unique pin for use at the facility. Inmates are required to enter their unique pin into the phone system before making outgoing calls. The person who placed the outgoing call identified himself as “Q” and addressed the recipient of the call as “dad.” Based on the caller’s use of the unique identifier assigned to JONES and his self-identification as “Q,” which I believe stands for “Quintin,” I believe that JONES was the inmate who placed the call. Furthermore, I believe that JONES’ father was the recipient of the call.

30. During the approximately 15-minute call, the caller, who I believe to be JONES, discussed the circumstances surrounding his detention, including his inability to make bail and fact that another male had been charged as part of the case. The caller further stated in reference to bank robberies: “I was involved with two of them. I’m being honest.” The caller stated that he was present with the other male for those two robberies; he denied, however, participating in other robberies that had recently occurred. The caller also admitted that he helped burn “the car,” but he stated that he was not involved in its theft.

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<sup>4</sup> Users of the Cumberland County Correctional Center phone system receive warnings that their calls may be recorded. In addition, recipients of calls placed on the system receive a warning as well.

31. Based on the information set forth in this affidavit as well as other information known to me from this investigation, I believe that WALLACE is the person described above as Individual-1 and JONES is the person described above as Individual-2, both of whom carried out the robbery of Cape Bank on October 11, 2016.

32. Wherefore, your Affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that on or about October 11, 2016, in Cumberland County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, WALLACE and JONES knowingly, by force and violence, and by intimidation, did take from an employee and presence of an employee of Cape Bank, approximately \$24,926 belonging to, and in the care, custody, control, management, and possession of Cape Bank, the deposits of which were then insured by the FDIC, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(a), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

33. The information contained in this affidavit is known to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.