



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIVE MEN INDICTED IN FOUR BURGLARIES OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that five men were indicted by a federal grand jury today on charges related to burglaries at three Kansas City area banks and credit unions.

Aaron E. Rogers, 34, and **Daniel W. Pitts**, 25, **Richard L. Morse**, 25, **Charles E. Miller**, 39, and **David S. Adams**, 33, all of Kansas City, were charged in a seven-count superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. Today's superseding indictment replaces an earlier indictment against **Rogers** and **Pitts** by adding additional charges and defendants.

Count One of the superseding indictment alleges that all five of the defendants conspired with each other to enter credit unions or commercial banks with the intent to steal funds from those facilities. The superseding indictment alleges that the object of the conspiracy was to obtain money by forcible, unauthorized entry in credit unions or banks, and removing cash dispensing machines and/or safes containing money.

The superseding indictment also alleges that the defendants possessed tools and equipment – including crowbars and large portable dollies – to facilitate the burglaries and remove safes or cash dispensing machines. The defendants acquired information concerning the institutions' alarm-security systems prior to the commission of the burglaries, the superseding indictment alleges, so as to disable them. The defendants then shared in the stolen cash proceeds obtained through this burglary scheme, according to the superseding indictment.

Count Two of the superseding indictment alleges that **Rogers**, **Pitts**, **Morse** and **Adams** illegally entered Central Communications Credit Union, 2539 Broadway, Kansas City, Mo., and stole \$96,744 on July 1 or 2, 2002.

Count Three of the superseding indictment alleges that **Rogers, Pitts and Morse** illegally entered United Consumers Credit Union, 551 Cambridge, Kansas City, Mo., and stole \$164,473 between Sept. 13 and 15, 2002.

Count Four of the superseding indictment alleges that **Morse and Pitts** illegally entered Cross Roads Credit Union, 4226 Gardner, Kansas City, Mo., and stole \$72,400 between Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 2002.

Count Five of the superseding indictment alleges that **Pitts, and Morse** illegally entered Commerce Bank, 13333 S. Holmes, Kansas City, Mo., with the intent to steal bank funds on Sept. 5, 2003. **Rogers and Miller** communicated by radio or walkie-talkie to assist in the burglary, the superseding indictment says, with **Rogers** informing **Pitts and Morse** of approaching police vehicles.

Count Six of the superseding indictment alleges that **Pitts** was a felon in possession of ammunition. According to the superseding indictment, **Pitts** was in possession of a a box of 39 rounds of .9mm firearm ammunition, a box of 40 rounds of .38 Special Winchester firearm ammunition, and a box of four rounds of 7.62 by 39mm Winchester firearm ammunition. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Pitts** has a criminal felony conviction for burglary in Jackson County, Mo.

Count Seven of the superseding indictment alleges that **Morse** transported property that had been stolen from Missouri to Illinois. According to the superseding indictment, **Morse** transported a 2003 Dodge 3/4 ton pick-up truck, owned by Heartland Community Credit Union, 406A East Bannister Road, Kansas City, Mo., between Sept. 5 and Sept. 26, 2003.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the superseding indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow