



FBI PRESS RELEASE

LOS ANGELES FIELD OFFICE

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For Immediate Release

DATE: September 24, 2009

PUBLIC'S HELP SOUGHT IN IDENTIFYING GROUP OF VIOLENT ARMED BANK ROBBERS LINKED TO THREE BANKS IN SOUTH BAY LOS ANGELES KNOWN AS THE "BEDTIME BANDITS"

The FBI and police in Hawthorne, Redondo Beach and Rolling Hills Estates, California, are seeking the public's assistance with information leading to the identification of three men believed to be responsible for three violent bank robberies since February 2009. The most recent robbery occurred last Saturday, September 19th, at a Chase Bank in Hawthorne, California. Three bandits described as black men in their twenties, entered the bank brandishing large guns and ordered customers and employees to the ground, including two pregnant women. During the robbery, the suspects removed cash from teller drawers and stuffed it in pillowcases that were described by witnesses to be part of a child's sheet set. The group has been named the "Bedtime Bandits" based on what appeared to be children's pillowcases used during the robberies.

The pillowcases used are similar to ones used during previous robberies linked to the Bedtime Bandits earlier this year. In February and May 2009, bandits described as black males in their twenties conducted takeover style bank robberies in Rolling Hills Estates and Redondo Beach, California, using a similar mode of operation. During the two previous robberies, the bandits were fully covered in clothing and facial masks, however, during the most recent robbery, their faces were not covered and photographs obtained from bank surveillance cameras are being distributed publicly.

The Bedtime Bandits have been linked to the following robberies:

9/19/09 Chase Bank, 3001 Hawthorne Blvd., Hawthorne, CA
5/22/09 Bank of America, 27411 S. Hawthorne Blvd., Rolling Hills Estates, CA
2/6/09 Bank of America, 1601 S. PCH, Redondo Beach, California

Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of the Bedtime Bandits is urged to contact the FBI or their local police department. These suspects are considered armed and dangerous. In Los Angeles, the FBI can be reached 24 hours/7 days a week by calling 1 800 CANT HIDE (1800 226-8883) or 310 477-6565. Reward money is available in exchange for information leading to the arrest of the individuals responsible for this series of robberies.

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MEDIA CONTACT:

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