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PRESS RELEASE

Phoenixville Bank Robber Arrested

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced the arrest of Michael Scott Brown for two bank robberies in Phoenixville, Chester County, PA. The defendant robbed the same Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust at 120 Main Street, Phoenixville on February 20, 2013 and April 16, 2013.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "If you rob a bank, we are going to track you down and lock you up. Every bank robbery includes the danger of death, whether we are talking about the terrified employees of the bank, the innocent civilian customers of the bank, or the responding police officers. In Chester County, we come down hard on bank robbers."

The defendant is 23 years old. He resided at 9200 West Chester Pike, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.

The allegations from the criminal complaint¹ are as follows:

On February 20, 2013 at approximately 10:35 a.m., the Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust was robbed by a man wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans with a knit hat and dark sunglasses. The man demanded money from a teller and implied that he had a gun, saying "Give me all your money, nobody move and I won't shoot anyone." The suspect also threatened the bank manager when he came out of his office saying "Don't come any closer or I will shoot you." The suspect fled the bank on foot after obtaining money from the teller. There were several employees and customers in the bank at the time of the robbery.

¹ A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

On April 16, 2013 at 11:55 a.m., the same Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust was robbed again. The subject matched the same physical description from the February 20th robbery and wore a dark hooded jacket, blue jeans, a red baseball cap and dark sunglasses. This time the suspect approached a teller and displayed a handgun stating, "Give me all your money." The suspect once again fled on foot after obtaining money from the teller. There were several employees and customers in the bank at the time of this robbery as well.

Phoenixville police generated a wanted/reward poster using surveillance images from the bank robbery on February 20th. Citizen tips led to the identification of the defendant. Additional police investigation led to people who were with the defendant in the area of the bank on the date of the second bank robbery. Police were then able to identify the defendant and place him in the area of the bank at the time of both robberies.

Phoenixville Police Chief Bill Mossman stated, "This case was solved by the combined efforts of Phoenixville Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the help of concerned citizens. Citizen tips resulted in key leads that broke this case open. It is very important for citizens to come forward with information so that the police can keep violent criminals off the streets."

District Attorney Hogan added, "This was an excellent investigation by the Phoenixville Police Department and the FBI. Chester County law enforcement works hand-in-hand with our federal partners to keep our county safe."

The Upper Darby Township Police and Springfield Township Police also assisted with the arrest of the defendant. The defendant is in Chester County Prison on \$250,000 bail.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan