

Suspect in June 20 Scottsburg bank robbery in Phoenix; charges filed

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A suspect has been charged in the June 20 robbery of the Westview branch of The Scott County State Bank.

Paperwork was filed Monday, July 8, in Scott Circuit Court by Prosecutor Jason Mount charging Jason Lee Robinson, 34, Pikeville, Ky., with the crime.

Robinson is charged with a Class C felony count of robbery. Bail in the matter is fixed at \$100,000.

The suspect was arrested in the greater Phoenix, Az., area by officers with the Arizona Department of Public Safety on Friday, July 5. He was reported to be in a van suspected of having been stolen from a relative in Pikeville. As of July 8, he was being held on a vehicle theft charge in Maricopa County, Az.

Some details about Robinson and his alleged activities were learned through the case's probable cause affidavit.

The suspect reportedly has a criminal history of having robbed banks and was recently released from federal prison after serving a term for that crime. Consequently, Robinson may also be facing violation of his federal parole agreement.

The unraveling of Robinson's identity after his alleged actions on June 20 began after the Scottsburg Police Department released information and photos of the suspect to news media in the greater Louisville area. Patrolman Travis Rutherford was called by the county's dispatching center and told that a woman had called who wanted to talk about the man who stole money from the branch bank.

That woman said she knew the bank robber. She said Robinson had been released from prison about a week prior to the Scottsburg robbery, and the vehicle used for his get-away was a silver Honda Odyssey van owned by the man's grandparents.

The caller could not explain how Robinson ended up in Scottsburg.

Ptl. Rutherford and Sgt. Steve Herald contacted the Kentucky State Police, the Pike County Sheriff's Department and the Pikeville City Police as well as Robinson's grandparents. The man's grandmother said she reported the van as missing after her grandson did not return the vehicle. Further paperwork was then filed to change that report's status to "stolen." The new information went out through the IDACS criminal information system. Just before 9 p.m. Friday night, an officer stopped Robinson in the van outside of Phoenix. After being contacted, Assistant Police Chief Richey Barton e-mailed Officer J.D Hough paperwork on the bank robbery. The officer identified Robinson as the bank robber. No information was available about Robinson's extradition to Indiana so that he may have an initial court hearing on the new bank robbery charge.