



FBI News Release

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
450 Golden Gate Avenue, 13th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

**For Immediate Release
October 21, 2011**

FBI and Local Law Enforcement Agencies Seeks the Public's Help in Identifying "The Dust Mask Bandit"; Reward Offered

The FBI, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Arcata Police Department, Yreka Police Department, Del Norte County Sheriff's Office and Grants Pass Department of Public Safety are seeking the public's help in identifying a suspect dubbed "The Dust Mask Bandit," who is linked to a total of six bank robberies, five in Northern California and one in Oregon.

The suspect most recently targeted the McKinleyville, CA Ray's Food Place Coast Central Credit Union on October 20, 2011. The bandit entered the credit union, confronted two tellers, brandished a handgun and demanded money.

The bandit ran from the bank with an undisclosed amount of U.S. currency and entered a green, newer model Mazda with tinted windows, white stickers on the rear window, a modified exhaust and a "5" in the license plate.

Witnesses described the suspect as a male with a dark tan complexion; about 5'9" with a medium to stocky build; wearing a dark colored bandana over his face; a large, felt-style floppy hat; and gray sweater with a bright royal blue shirt.

An Arcata Police Officer, who was monitoring the radio call regarding the bank robbery, attempted to make a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle, but the suspect did not stop and a pursuit was initiated. The suspect drove to the 500 block of Fieldbrook Road and exited the car and ran into the woods behind the residence. Law enforcement personnel from the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, the California Department of Fish and Game, Arcata Police Department and the California Highway Patrol searched for the suspect. The suspect was not located.

The bandit is also linked to the following bank robberies:

- Coast Central Credit Union in Arcata, CA on September 7, 2011.
- Bank of America in Yreka, CA on September 1, 2011.
- Coast Central Credit Union in McKinleyville, CA on August 12, 2011.
- Chetco Federal Credit Union in Smith River, CA on July 8, 2011.
- Home Federal Bank in Grants Pass, Oregon on July 5, 2011.

Witnesses in the previous bank robberies have described the bandit as a white male in his 30s, about 5'5" to 5'10", 180 to 200 lbs with a medium to large build. He has brown hair and usually wears a dust mask cover his face. In four of the bank robberies, the bandit also wore a dark baseball hat and on one occasion wore a dark bandana on his head. The suspect should be considered armed and dangerous. He brandished a handgun in all of the bank robberies except for the one that occurred on September 7, 2011.

This investigation is being conducted by FBI's San Francisco, Portland and Sacramento Divisions, the Arcata Police Department, Yreka Police Department, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Del Norte County Sheriff's Office and Grants Pass Department of Public Safety. Anybody with information as to the identity or whereabouts of this suspect is urged to contact the FBI. A reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Dusk Mask Bandit.

The FBI can be reached 24 hours a day at 415-553-7400 in the San Francisco area, 916-481-9110 in the Sacramento and 503-224-4181 in Oregon. All calls are confidential.

Bank surveillance photos of the suspect are available and attached to this press release.

Members of the media should call:

- San Francisco Division – Public Affairs Specialist Julianne Sohn at 415-553-7450.
- Sacramento Division – Public Affairs Specialist Gina Swankie at 916-977-2285.
- Portland Division – Public Affairs Specialist Beth Anne Steele at 503-552-5238.
- Humboldt County Sheriff's Office – Lt. Dave Morey at 707-268-3614.

Coast Central Credit Union, Arcata, CA – September 7, 2011



Home Federal Bank, Grants Pass, OR – July 5, 2011



Chetco Federal Credit Union, Smith River, CA – July 8, 2011

