

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
LAWRENCE JOHN RIPPLE)
DOB: 06/01/1946)
Defendant)
_____)

Case No. 16-mj-8202 DJW

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Special Agent Eric Beltz, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

COUNT 1

On or about September 2, 2016, in the District of Kansas, the defendant,

LAWRENCE JOHN RIPPLE,

by threat and intimidation, took United States currency from the person and presence of M.C., an employee of Bank of Labor, 756 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas, (commonly referred to as Brotherhood Bank and Trust, hereafter “the bank”), such currency belonging to and in the care, custody, control, management and possession of that bank, the deposits of which were then insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. This was in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(a).

I am a Special Agent (SA) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and have been so employed since February 2009. I am currently assigned to the Violent Crimes Squad within the Kansas City Division of the FBI, responsible for conducting bank robbery investigations.

This complaint is based on the following facts, which are known to me as a result of my

personal participation in the investigation, my conversations with law enforcement officers involved in the investigation, and from reports prepared by law enforcement officers:

1. On September 2, 2016, at approximately 2:22pm., the Bank of Labor, 756 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas, was robbed by one white male suspect. Bank surveillance video showed that the suspect approached the teller counter, produced a demand note and demanded cash. The teller turned over approximately \$2,924.00 in U.S. currency. Bank surveillance video showed the suspect then sat down in the bank lobby and interacted with the bank security guard.

2. In response to the robbery, FBI Special Agent Douglas McKelway interviewed the bank security guard, P.L. who stated Ripple was sitting in the lobby when he told P.L. that he was the guy he was looking for. P.L. took Ripple into custody and removed property from his person including a large amount of money.

3. In response to the robbery Kansas City Kansas Police Officer Andrew Chronister responded to the bank and took Ripple into custody from P.L. KCKPD Officer Chronister escorted Ripple along with Task Force Officer Dion Dundovich of the Kansas City Kansas Police Department and SA Eric Beltz to the Kansas City Kansas Police Headquarters at 700 Minnesota Avenue Kansas City, KS. While being escorted Ripple told Officer Chronister, TFO Dundovich and SA Beltz he had committed the robbery.

4. Ripple was escorted to an interview room at Kansas City Kansas Police Headquarters where TFO Dundovich and SA Beltz advised Ripple of his Miranda Rights via a FD-395a Advice of Rights form. Ripple signed the Advice of Rights form at approximately 3:09pm and continued to speak with TFO Dundovich and SA Beltz. During the post Miranda interview, Ripple relayed that he and his wife had an argument at home and Ripple no longer wanted to be

in the situation. Ripple wrote out his demand note in front of his wife Remedios Ripple and told her he'd rather be in jail than at home. Ripple then walked to the bank and robbed it.


5. On September 2, 2016, SA Jonathan Spaeth interviewed victim teller M.C. M.C. told SA Spaeth she was working the bank counter when she greeted Ripple who produced a hand written note stating, "I have a gun, give me money." M.C. feared Ripple had a gun and complied with his demand, providing him approximately \$2,924.00 in cash.

6. On September 2, 2016, in response to the robbery FBI SA JC Bauer observed the note that had been left at the bank by the robber. SA Bauer recollected the note said, "I have a gun give me your cash." The note was subsequently collected by Kansas City Kansas Police Crime Scene personnel.

7. Bank personnel reported an approximate loss of \$2,924.00 to responding law enforcement officers. Kansas City Kansas Police personnel, in receiving Ripple's property, found \$2,924.00 in Ripple's possession and returned the money to the bank.

8. Bank of Labor, 756 Minnesota, Kansas City, Kansas, is a federally insured bank and the FDIC Certificate number is 1874. The bank reported a loss of \$2924.00.

The foregoing is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.


Eric R. Beltz
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of September 2016, at
Kansas City, Kansas.

David J. Waxse

Honorable David J. Waxse
United States Magistrate Judge
District of Kansas