

NEWS RELEASE



Russel E. Burger, Sheriff
Lane County Sheriff's Office
125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 682-4150 / FAX (541) 682-4522
Email: sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us

CASE NUMBER: 09-2357

DATE OF INCIDENT: 04-02-09

DATE / TIME OF RELEASE: 04-03-09

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Bank Robbery Investigation

SUSPECTS: Holden Smith, 21, of Eugene
Eric Ellis, 25, of Eugene
Travis Weller, 21, of Springfield

DETAILS:

Since the March 26 robbery of the Siuslaw Bank on Highway 58 in Pleasant Hill, detectives from the Lane County Sheriff's Office and Special Agents of the Eugene office of the F.B.I. have been aggressively investigating the incident. Through the course of that inquiry, information has led to the identification of three men, Holden Smith, Eric Ellis and Travis Weller, as having likely been involved in the robbery, and possibly another robbery of the same bank in early March.

Earlier this week, warrants were issued for Smith and Ellis and on Thursday Weller was identified as being the third person involved. Investigators checked numerous locations in the Eugene-Springfield area until FBI Special Agent Chris Lau located a vehicle associated with one of the suspects at a downtown Eugene motel.

FBI and Sheriff's Office personnel were assisted by Eugene and Springfield Police at the motel and all three men were taken into custody without incident. The investigation is continuing as authorities apply for warrants to search the vehicle and motel rooms associated with the suspects.

Prepared by: Captain William Thompson