

## Medford man pleads guilty to armed bank robbery

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

EUGENE, Ore. - Edward Jay Silva, 30, of Medford, Oregon, pled guilty in federal court Tuesday to the September 7, 2005 armed robbery of the Washington Mutual Bank in Gold Hill, Oregon. Armed with a pistol and wearing a wig and mask disguise, Silva was one of three who committed the mid-day bank robbery.

During the hearing before U.S. District Judge Michael Hogan, Silva admitted he put the lives of people in jeopardy by using a pistol to forcibly take about \$196,000 from bank employees.

Silva also acknowledged that because of his prior convictions for crimes of violence, he qualifies as a Career Offender for sentencing purposes under the federal sentencing guidelines.

Silva faces a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The sentencing hearing is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2008.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Byron Chatfield and investigated by the Jackson County Sheriff's office, Medford Police Department and the FBI.

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