



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: September 2, 2004

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LOCAL MEN INDICTED FOR ATM THEFTS

(Beaumont, TX) A Federal Grand Jury has indicted three men in connection with the theft of several automated teller machines (ATMs) in Jefferson, Orange and surrounding counties. **DONALD GENE PIFER, SR.**, 55, of Vidor, **DONALD GENE PIFER, JR.**, 30, of Groves, and **CHARLES SCOTT CODY**, 31, of New Caney, were present for their arraignment today before United States Magistrate Judge Wendell Radford.

The Indictments read today in open Court charge the three men in a conspiracy from May 19, 2004, to August 5, 2004, in which they stole ATMs at the Texaco Federal Credit Union in Port Arthur, the Dupont Employees Federal Credit Union in Orange, the Gulf Employees Credit Union in Beaumont, the Country Corner Convenience Store in Orange, Glenn's Mart in Vinton, Louisiana, and Crosby State Bank in Crosby. The indictment also alleges that all three individuals participated in the taking of the ATM at the Texaco Federal Credit Union, and that Donald Gene Pifer, Jr. and Charles Scott Cody participated in the taking of the ATM at Dupont Federal Credit Union and Gulf Employees Credit Union. Donald Gene Pifer, Jr. and Charles Scott Cody were also indicted for transporting in interstate commerce two stolen vehicles and an ATM.

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If convicted, the men each face up to 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each count of the ATM thefts, and up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each of the transportation in interstate commerce charges. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. A Grand Jury indictment is not evidence of guilt.

The cases are being investigated by the Beaumont Police Department, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Port Arthur Police Department, Groves Police Department, Port Neches Police Department, Beaumont Fire Department, Vinton Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Harris County Sheriff's Office, Jefferson County District Attorney's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Lowery is prosecuting the cases.

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