



EST. 1851

PLACER COUNTY
SHERIFF
CORONER-MARSHAL

MAIN OFFICE
2929 RICHARDSON DR.
AUBURN, CA 95603
PH: (530) 889-7800 FAX: (530) 889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530) 581-6300 FAX: (530) 681-6377



EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

DEVON BELL
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Wednesday, August 17, 2011
Date/Time of Occurrence: Monday, August 15, 2011 2:25 p.m.
Nature of Event: Auburn Bank Robber Believed To Be "Bad Hair Bandit"
Location of Call: 13422 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA
Released by: Lt. Mark Reed (530) 889-7862

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The woman arrested Monday for robbing the Bank of the West in Auburn is believed to be the "Bad Hair Bandit" responsible for up to 20 other bank robberies in Washington, Oregon and Montana.

Around 2:25 p.m., Cynthia Van Holland entered the Bank of the West at 13422 Lincoln Way. She passed a note to a teller demanding money and stating that she was armed. She was given an undetermined amount of money and left the bank.

Witnesses in the busy shopping center saw the woman run from the bank and get into the getaway car that was parked behind the bank. The driver, Christopher Alonzo, 26, then drove off. A very observant witness gave deputies the vehicle description and a possible license plate number.

Minutes later, deputies who were staking out Interstate 80, spotted the vehicle near Rocklin Road. The pair was arrested without incident.

Placer County detectives identified Van Holland as a possible suspect in the "Bad Hair Bandit" robberies after examining evidence and surveillance photos. A joint investigation was started with the FBI and is continuing at this time.

Any questions regarding the bank robberies in Washington, Oregon and Montana should be directed to the FBI office in Spokane.