



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

Press Release

Today's Date: 08/24/09
Date & Time Occurred: 08/24/09 at 2:38 hours
Submitted By: Sgt. Jeff King
Phone: (707) 449-5416
Case Number: 09-07083
Type of Crime/Incident: 211 pc Bank Robbery
Location: 367 Merchant Street Vacaville Ca. 95688
Suspects: S-Blankenship, James A. 03/08/1982
Vacaville Resident

Narrative:

On August 24, 2009 at approximately 2:38 p.m., the Vacaville Police Dispatch Center received a call of a bank robbery from 367 Merchant Street, the U.S. Bank. A citizen reported that the suspect in the robbery was seen getting into a red colored PT Cruiser and heading towards west bound I-80. Patrol Officers picked up the suspect vehicle at I-80 and Merchant Street. An enforcement stop was attempted but the suspect refused to pull over. A high speed vehicle pursuit ensued taking officers west bound through central Solano County.

The California Highway Patrol took over the vehicle pursuit and continued to chase the suspect west bound on I-80 at speeds over 90 MPH. The suspect lost control of his vehicle and left the road on W/B I-80 near Highway 37 in Vallejo. The suspect was taken into custody and turned over to Vacaville PD officers.

While the vehicle pursuit was taking place Detectives from the Investigative Services Section (ISS) and the Family Investigative Response Team (FIRST) responded to the bank and began the investigation. Members of the Fairfield FBI office also responded and assisted at the bank. The investigation uncovered the following:

The suspect used a demand note for money and the victim teller complied. An unknown amount of cash was passed to the suspect who then left the bank. S-James Blankenship was arrested and booked into the Solano County Jail for robbery and felony evading.

This investigation is still ongoing at the time of this press release. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Anderson at (707) 449-5269.