



THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT *of* JUSTICE

United States Attorney's Office
District of Vermont

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 30, 2024
[@USAO_VT](https://justice.gov/usao-vt)

United States Courthouse and Federal Building
Post Office Box 570, Burlington VT 05402
Tel: (802) 951-6725

Burlington Man Sentenced in Federal Court on Bank Robbery Charge

Burlington, Vermont – The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated that on January 29, 2024, Malik Pratt, 26, of Burlington, Vermont was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Christina Reiss to 35 months in prison and three years of supervised release following his guilty plea to robbing the People's United Bank branch in Burlington, Vermont on March 1, 2022. The Court also ordered Pratt to pay restitution to the bank for the amount stolen.

According to court records, Burlington Police Department officers were dispatched to the People's United Bank on North Avenue in Burlington on March 1, 2022, at 10:06 a.m. following reports of a bank robbery. Bank employees stated that the robber threatened to shoot them and demanded cash. After acquiring cash, the robber fled the bank on foot, jumping over a fence near the Ethan Allan Parkway to escape. The bank reported a total of \$1,316 in U.S. currency stolen. Within weeks, Burlington detectives and federal agents identified Pratt as the robber. He was charged with bank robbery on March 18, 2022, and pleaded guilty on October 11, 2022.

U.S. Attorney Nikolas P. Kerest commended the Burlington Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives on their collaborative investigation of Pratt.

The prosecutor is Assistant United States Attorney Paul Van de Graaf. Pratt is represented by Richard R. Goldsborough, Esq.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and gun violence, and to make our neighborhoods safer for everyone. On May 26, 2021, the Department launched a violent crime reduction strategy strengthening PSN based on these core principles: fostering trust and legitimacy in our communities, supporting community-based organizations that help prevent violence from occurring in the first place, setting focused and strategic enforcement priorities, and measuring the results. For more information about Project Safe Neighborhoods, please visit Justice.gov/PSN.