



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

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News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Gayle Perez 719 924 5471
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Serial Bank Robber Found Guilty of Robbing Four Banks in Pueblo County

Pueblo, CO: A Pueblo West man was found guilty Thursday of committing a series of bank robberies in 2018, thanks to a solid investigation led by the Pueblo County Sheriff's Detectives, in conjunction with Pueblo Police, Colorado Springs Police, the Safe Streets Task Force and the 10th Judicial District Attorney's Office.

A Pueblo jury deliberated for 45 minutes before rendering the guilty verdict against Chad Hovet, 36, who was charged with robbing three banks in Pueblo West and one in the City of Pueblo during a two-month spree in the spring of 2018. Hovet remains in Pueblo County Jail. He will be sentenced on February 4, 2020.

"Pueblo County is a lot safer today, thanks to the dedicated and thorough police work on this case by our detectives in partnership with Pueblo Police, and with the diligent and effective work by our partners at the District attorney's office in prosecuting this case," said Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk M. Taylor. "The guilty verdict will ensure this dangerous individual remains off the streets for a very long time."

For months, local bank employees were on edge after Hovet committed the string of robberies that occurred between March 29 and May 24 in Pueblo County. He was also linked to one bank robbery in Colorado Springs on April 11.

In October 2018, a Pueblo County Sheriff's Detective working on an unrelated investigation saw a green GMC Envoy at a Pueblo West home that resembled the vehicle used in the robberies of Pueblo West banks, the Bank of San Juans, TBK Bank and ENT Bank. A second vehicle on the property, a white GMC truck, was similar to the vehicle used in the robberies of the Wells Fargo Bank in Pueblo and the UMB Bank in Colorado Springs.

Sheriff's Detectives questioned the homeowner, later identified as Hovet, and his wife. Detectives subsequently executed a search warrant on the property and of the vehicles and found evidence to connect Hovet to the robberies. He was arrested by Sheriff's Detectives on October 10, 2018.

In all four robberies, the suspect was described as a white male with slender build. He was reported wearing a dark green coat and had either a mask or bandana over his face and wore

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sunglasses. The weapon used in each of the robberies was reportedly the same type of handgun and the robber instructed employees at each of the banks to put the money in the same type of bag.

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