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US MARSHALS ARREST FUGITIVE IN FAIRFIELD

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — U.S. Marshals arrested a woman who has been a fugitive since she missed her sentencing date in October 2011, United States Attorney Benjamin B. Wagner and United States Marshal Albert Nájera announced.

Niesha Nicole Jackson, 34, was featured on CNBC's program "American Greed: The Fugitives" and labeled as the "Bank Robbing Babe." When she was arrested, she had in her possession a T-shirt with BR Babe printed on it. After receiving information that Jackson was in Fairfield, the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force, composed of U.S. Marshals and state and local agencies, set up surveillance at the hotel and arrested her.

According to court documents, Jackson was part of a bank fraud scheme that netted between one to two million dollars in losses to 37 banks in 2007 and 2008. The organizers, operating from California, sent runners to Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas to use "pre-paid" credit cards at banks for cash advances. Although the cards only had small amounts of money available, the runners would tell the bank tellers to call a toll-free number that was controlled by Jackson or another co-conspirator. Jackson, posing as a card services representative, would mislead the bank employee into believing that there were thousands of dollars available on the card, and then would instruct the teller what buttons to press on the card terminal in order to make the transaction go through. After receiving the cash, the runner would keep a portion and the rest of the fraudulently obtained funds would go to the organizers in the Sacramento area.

On July 30, 2009, a federal jury indicted Jackson, charging her with one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and one count of bank fraud. She pleaded guilty in March 2010, but then failed to appear at her sentencing and a warrant was issued for her arrest. She is scheduled to appear in Sacramento today at 2:00 p.m. before U.S. Magistrate Judge Carolyn K. Delaney.

This case is the product of an investigation by the U.S. Secret Service, the U.S. Marshals Service with assistance from police and sheriff's departments in several states. Seven defendants have been sentenced in the conspiracy. Assistant United States Attorney Matthew D. Segal is prosecuting the case.

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