

5 DETROIT MEN CHARGED IN ' 01 ARMORED CAR ROBBERY

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Using jailhouse information, federal authorities said Monday they had cracked a 3-year-old **armored car robbery** and shooting **in** Dearborn that killed one guard.

The FBI announced charges against five men, two of whom work at the Ford Rouge plant, **in** the Dec. 14, 2001, **robbery** that killed Norman Stephens, 30, of Detroit. Authorities said they expect to charge two more people.

"We're very happy it finally got solved," said FBI special agent Terry Booth, who credited his agents, Dearborn police and the multiagency Violent Crimes Task Force.

Police reported at the time that three hooded men ambushed Stephens and two other guards about 3:50 a.m. outside the Dearborn Federal Credit Union near the Fairlane Town Center mall.

The suspects shot Stephens several times and stole his money bags. The other guards locked themselves **in** their truck, police said.

Until last summer, the case was a mystery, according to an affidavit filed **in** U.S. District Court by case agent Barry Higginbotham, which was released Monday.

On Aug. 6, a confidential informant sent the FBI a letter claiming that Timothy D. O'Reilly, an inmate at the Ryan Correctional Facility **in** Detroit, was bragging about his role **in** the crime. The affidavit does not identify the informant, who subsequently told FBI agents that O'Reilly detailed his role and that of four other men.

A criminal complaint filed Friday charges O'Reilly, 31; Norman H. Duncan, 35; Kevin C. Watson, 30; Earl L. Johnson, 34, and Archie L. Broom, 36. Federal authorities said they all are from Detroit.

O'Reilly, Duncan and Broom are **in** jail on unrelated charges. Watson and Johnson were jailed Monday after their arrests at the plant, the FBI said. All are scheduled for detention hearings on Wednesday.

Higginbotham wrote that the informant's information was corroborated from other sources, and agents secretly taped O'Reilly speaking about the crime last week **in** jail.

The agent said the suspects escaped from the **robbery** with \$204,000. The informant also told authorities that O'Reilly, Duncan and Broom committed another **armored truck robbery in** June 2003 at 13500 W. Chicago **in** Detroit.

In February, Duncan and another man, Eddie Cromer, tried to rob a **armored** truck at the same Detroit location. A guard shot and killed Cromer, and police arrested Duncan.

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Caption: Photo

FOLLOWING CAPTION RAN IN METRO FINAL ONE-DOT EDITION: Norman Stephens was killed during the 2001 **robbery**.

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