



Rye Brook Police Department NEWS RELEASE

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**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE**
Gregory J. Austin

ATM TAMPERING SUSPECT ARRESTED BY RYE BROOK POLICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2010

Contact: Chief Gregory J. Austin
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On August 27, 2010, RAZVAN C APOSTOL, DOB 1/1/1979 of 4750 41 Street Apt 5A, Sunnyside Queens, NY, was arrested by the Rye Brook Police Department with the assistance of United States Secret Service and J.P. Morgan Chase Corporate Security for placing a "credit/debit card skimming device" at the Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at the Chase Bank located in the Rye Ridge Shopping Center, 150 South Ridge Street Rye Brook, NY 10573.

A credit/debit card skimming device is commonly used by identity thieves to capture credit card and/or debit card numbers recorded on the magnetic strip of the card. The credit/debit card skimming device attaches to the ATM card reader and in conjunction with the credit/debit card skimming device a small video camera is positioned over the ATM keyboard to record the unsuspecting victim's personal identification number.

In this case, RAZVAN C APOSTOL is accused of placing the credit/debit card skimming device on the Chase Bank ATM card reader and small video camera concealed within a reflective mirror above the ATM keypad. The mirror with the video camera matches the other legitimate mirrors commonly found on the upper right and left hand corners of most ATM's.

By positioning the skimming device over the card reader, the credit/debit card first passes through the skimming device and the number is captured and recorded, the card then is passed through the ATM reader in order for the customer to complete their transaction. The credit/debit card skimming device can be placed at the entry door card reader or on the ATM itself. The camera positioned over the ATM keypad records the personal identification number (PIN) of the customer and that PIN along with the captured credit/debit card number provides the suspect with enough information to steal the identity of the bank customer.

RAZVAN C APOSTOL, a Romanian citizen legally in the United States since May of this year is charged with violation of New York State Penal Law section 170.40 subsection 2; CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF FORGERY DEVICES a class D Felony.

This investigation is still ongoing and RAZVAN C APOSTOL is suspected of placing credit card skimming devices at the ATM at the Chase Bank in Rye Ridge Shopping Center on several other occasions during the month of August, 2010 and also at other Chase branch locations throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Anyone who may have used the ATM at the Chase Bank in Rye Ridge Shopping Center should keep a watchful eye on their accounts and should report suspicious activity to their bank branch and their local police department.

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