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## Old Fort Bank robber linked to bomb threat to high school

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FREMONT -- Police believe the man who robbed the Old Fort Bank on Tuesday also checked out two other banks and made a bomb threat at Fremont Ross High School.

Fremont Police Chief Tim Wiersma said video surveillance at the Friendship Food Store Sunoco at West State Street and Rawson Avenue captured a white Chrysler 300 leaving the outdoor pay phone around the time a bomb threat was called into Ross, around 12:20 p.m.

Forty minutes later, the same Chrysler 300 was seen leaving the area of Old Fort Banking Company. A witness said the man was running from the building and drove evasively.

In between the bomb threat and robbery, Fremont Police Detective Sean O'Connell said, the suspect went into two banks -- KeyBank and U.S. Bank -- before making his move.

"We speculate that he thought about the two other banks, but chose the Old Fort Bank for some reason," O'Connell said.

Police were able to establish the timeline using surveillance from the banks and witness statements.

The suspect is described as a black male, in his 20s, 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 7 inches tall, weighing about 120 pounds with square earrings and gold sunglasses.

Police hope people can use the picture captured during the heist to help identify the suspect, and say the hat and jacket worn by the robber are unique -- and possibly recognizable.

The FBI is assisting the investigation. O'Connell said they've found nothing to indicate the suspect's involvement in any other robberies.

Police are looking for help identifying the suspect. Contact the Fremont Police at 419-332-6464 with any information.

The same day as the robbery, another bomb threat was made at the KFC at Dickinson and West State streets.

Capt. James White said Jerardo Eckforde, 36, was charged with inducing panic in that incident, a first-degree misdemeanor offense.

White said he was an employee at the restaurant and called in the bomb threat to the manager.

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