



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## *Press Release*

### 3 to 5 Years for Westwood Bank Robbery

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A Rockport man has been sentenced to 3 to 5 years in State Prison for robbing the Westwood Cooperative Bank in 2011, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

George Schindler, 41, of Agawam Lane in Rockport pled guilty to passing a note demanding money to a teller on June 1, 2011 and fleeing the bank with \$1,100, Morrissey said.

"Westwood Police posted surveillance still photos from the bank on the Mass Most Wanted website to identify Schindler as a suspect," Morrissey said. "He was arrested the following September and pled guilty on February 27, 2013."

Assistant District Attorney Greg Connor asked Judge Kenneth Fishman to sentence Schindler to 6 to 8 years in prison; defense attorney Larry Tipton recommended 2 to 3 years in prison, revealing to the court that the defendant had relapsed into heroin addiction and committed the robbery because of that addiction.

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.