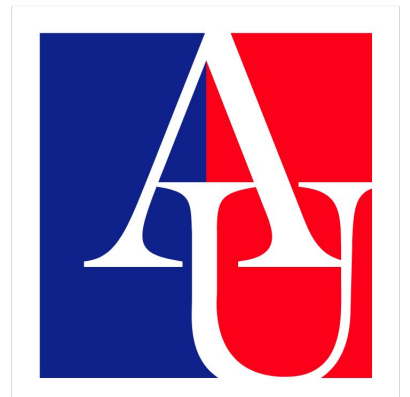




Beltway Bank Bandit

Melanie Klein
December 13, 2023
Law Enforcement
Use Only



JLC 445/696: D'Anna

Executive Summary

[Series Data for Reference](#)

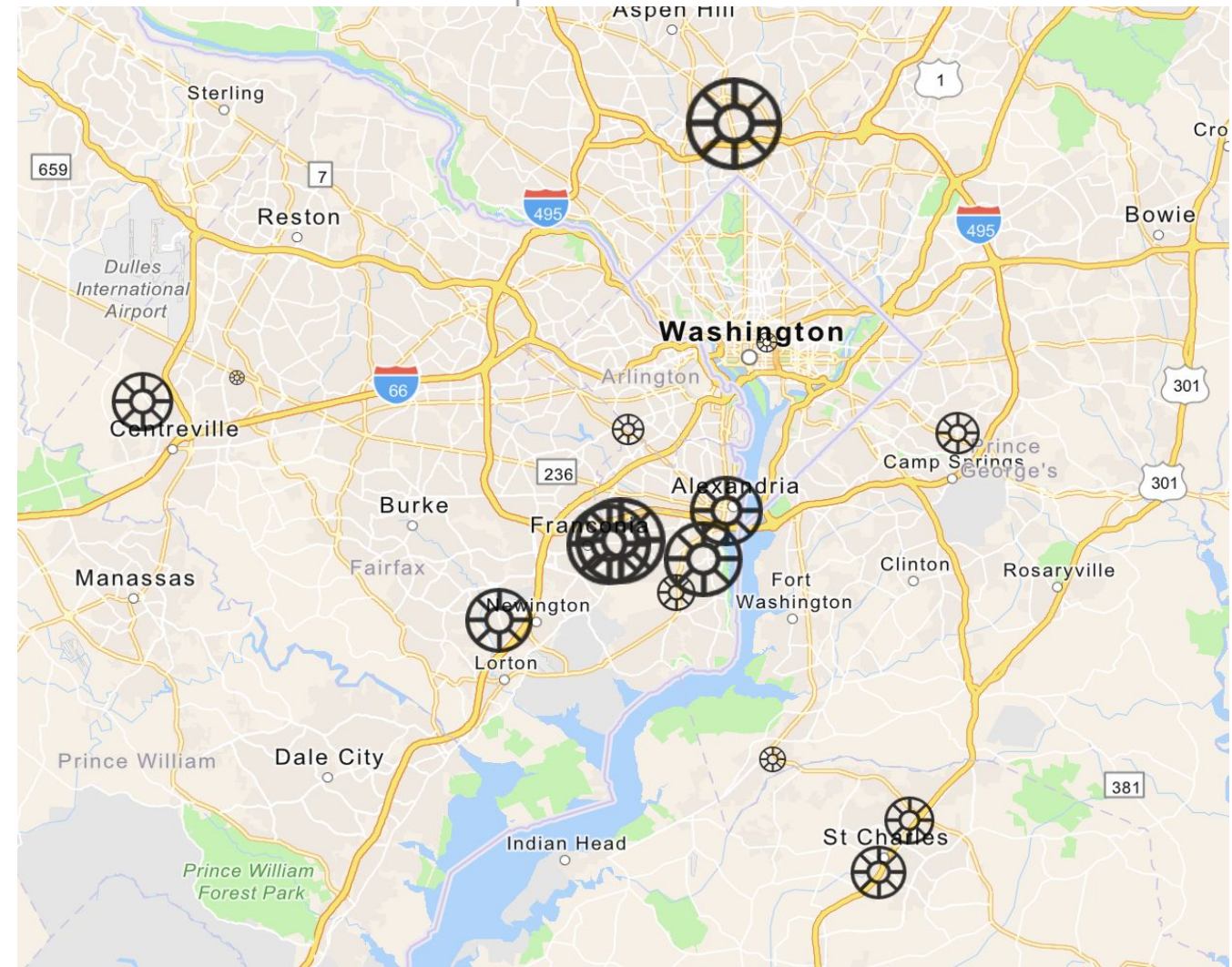
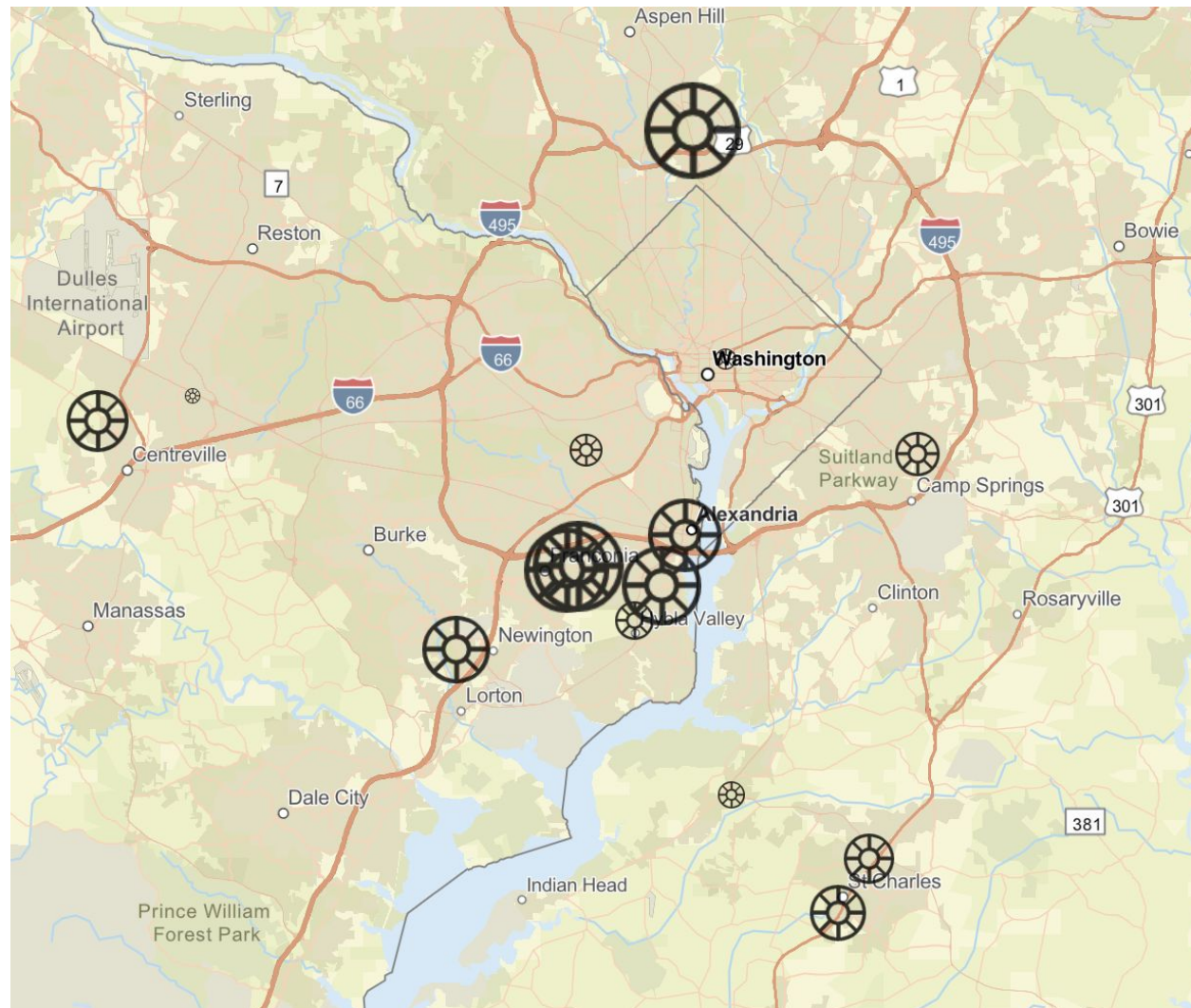
The Beltway Bank Bandit, a black male in his 20s-30s, has committed 16 robberies, 15 of them at banks, in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

The robberies almost all take place on weekdays from 9-5pm. Robberies have occurred over the last 15 months from December 2017 to February 2019. There is an average of 27 days between robberies, although there is a sharp increase in that interval period every 2 to 3 robberies.

All robberies occur near a highway which allows the robber to easily travel from their home base, located from Franconia to Alexandria, to a far away location. Every time the home base is left, they stretch the series by robbing a further away location.

Intervention Strategy: Hang flyers of their face outside of banks located in their home base, and station officers at highway entrances near these banks during weekdays and business hours.

Area Orientation



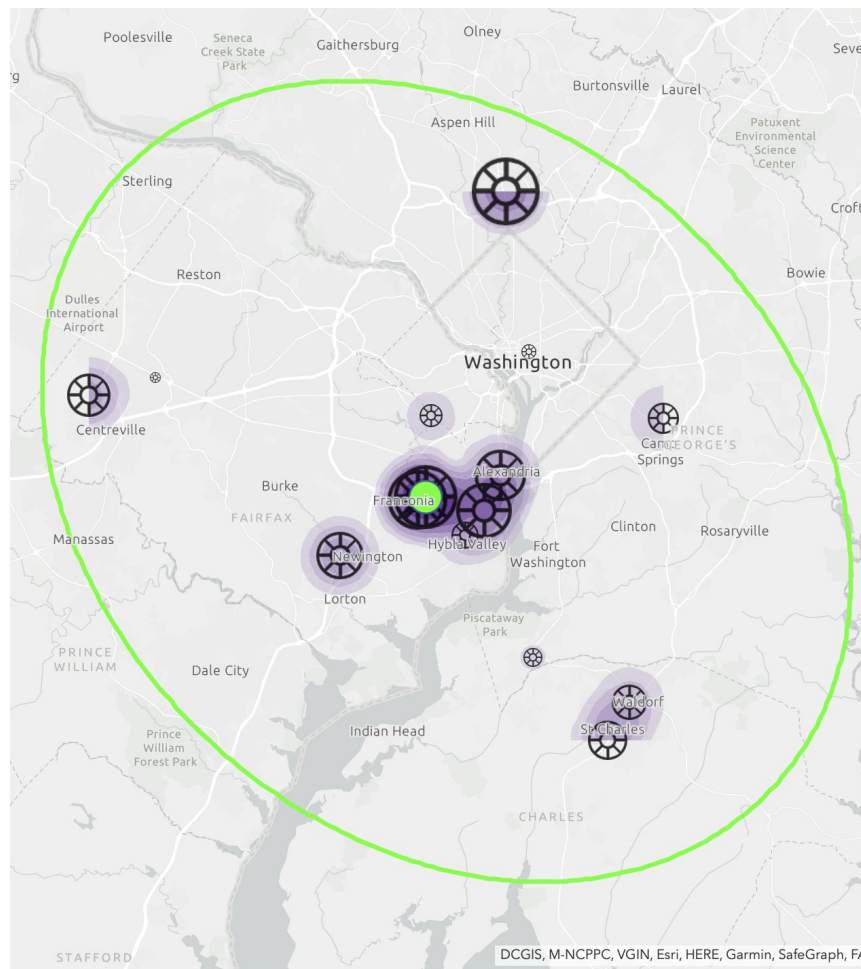
Behavioral Analysis

- [Description](#): black male, 20-30 years old, 5-foot-7 to 6-foot-3, 160 to 170 pounds
- [Disguises](#): has worn wigs, baseball caps, hijabs, and masks
- 16 events: 15 robberies and 1 attempted robbery
- Occurred at 15 banks and 1 department store
- Does not go to the same bank twice, but will repeat the same brand of bank. e.g. Capital One (4), BB&T (3), PNC (2)
- Occurring for 15 months: December 2017 - February 2019
- [Modus Operandi](#): hands the bank teller a note that demands money and says he has a gun
- No impacted victims



Archetype Behavior and Prediction: A black male committing bank robberies in the DMV with the use of a note

Spatial Analysis



- Maryland (4), Virginia (10), Washington, D.C. (2)
- All robberies occur near a highway, both state routes and interstate highways. 7 events occurred near I-495, the Capital Beltway, explaining the Beltway Bank Bandit's name
- The large hunting ground at the center from Franconia to Alexandria is the robber's home base. When they leave, they create new hunting grounds along the perimeter of the ellipse. They return to the home base but rarely to the same location along the perimeter.
- Each time they leave the home base, they stretch the boundaries by going to a far away location near the perimeter of the ellipse. By attempting to be unpredictable and moving further away over time, they develop a pattern that stretches the series further from the centroid.

Next Event Prediction: banks near Georgetown Village
They will likely move further south and further away than even before, considering their tendency to create new hunting grounds along the perimeter. They have not committed a robbery in this area yet and it is close to I-95.

Temporal Analysis

14 robberies occurred on weekdays, the most common being Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, but there is no overall pattern evident. No robberies occurred on Sundays and only one on Saturday due to banks typically being closed on Sundays and having limited hours on Saturdays.

8 robberies occurred in the afternoon and 5 robberies occurred in the morning, all of which were during standard business hours of banks. Although there is no distinct time pattern evident, there are four instances of 2 to 4 consecutive morning or afternoon robberies.

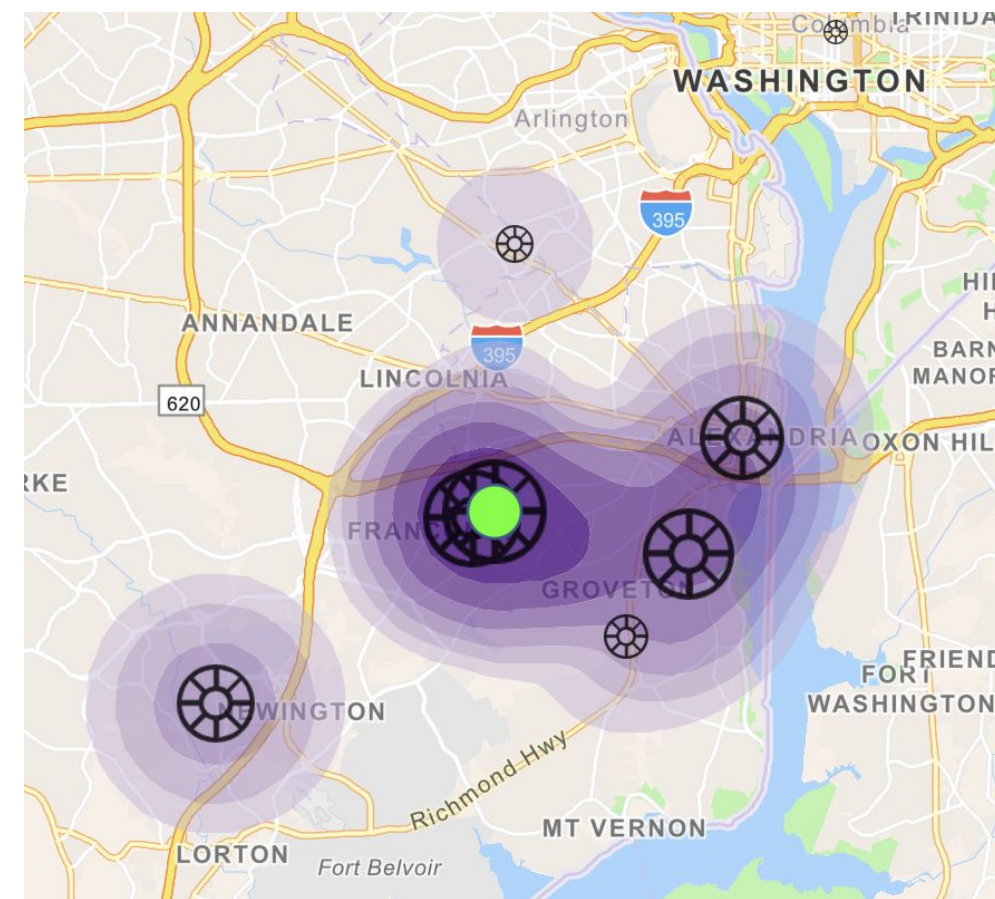


Interval displays a pattern where it peaks and then decreases for two to three robberies. The first three peaks increased in value, but the fourth peak was a significant decrease. The average interval is 27 days.

Next Event Prediction: Thursday, February 21st, 2019 between 11am and 12pm
Thursdays occur most frequently, the five most recent robberies have an average hour at 11am, the interval is 50 days which is the 95th percentile of previous intervals and is a mid-range interval peak value

Intervention Strategy

- The Beltway Bank Bandit often returns to its home base, pictured on the right, near Alexandria and Franconia. They typically rob banks on weekdays during business hours.
- Proposed Plan 1: Hang flyers with images of the suspect outside of all banks in this area to deter them from entering and offer a monetary award if anyone identifies the robber's location.
- Proposed Plan 2: Have security cameras and officers stationed at the highway entrances near these banks during weekdays and business hours. In order to save resources, only do so after they have committed a robbery at a far away location near the perimeter of the series since they often return to the home base after.



Conclusion

The Beltway Bank Bandit has committed 16 robberies, 15 at banks, in the DMV.

When predicting future events, the robberies typically occur on weekdays during business hours with an average of 27 days between events. The robber will target banks in close proximity to highways and alternates between their home base and far away locations they will go to once in an attempt to be unpredictable.

By hanging flyers of their image outside of banks in their home base, it will deter them from entering the bank. If they do successfully commit a robbery or if someone in the area recognizes them, having officers stationed near highway entrances will help them follow the Beltway Bank Bandit and track them to their next destination.