



U.S. Department of Justice

**Stephen J. Murphy
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan**

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For Immediate Release:

Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

April 14, 2008

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Kenlee Bolton

DETROIT MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR ASSAULT ON POSTAL CARRIER

Career Offender Used Box-Cutter To Steal Purse With \$25

A 48-year-old Detroit man was sentenced to 15-years imprisonment for assaulting a postal carrier using a deadly weapon, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Postal Inspector Joseph Pirone, U.S. Postal Service, Detroit.

On April 17, 2007, Kenlee Bolton, 48, of Detroit attacked a female United States Postal Service Letter Carrier as she was delivering mail on her regular route at Caldwell and Robinwood St. in Detroit. Bolton approached the carrier from behind and pushed her into the front seat of her delivery vehicle. Armed with a box-cutter, Bolton demanded that the postal worker "give me everything you got or I work you right here." The carrier turned over her Mickey Mouse-branded purse. Bolton escaped with \$25 and a cellular telephone but was soon arrested. He pled guilty before United States District Judge Gerald E. Rosen on November 16, 2007.

“Postal carriers provide a vital public service and should not be subjected to threats to their personal safety as they carry out their duties,” said United States Attorney Murphy. “The 15-year sentence to be served by this defendant will, we hope, deter others from committing such attacks in the future. I commend the protective arm of the Postal Inspection Service for hard work in resolving this matter so quickly.”

Bolton has eight prior convictions for armed robbery, seven of which involved use of a firearm. During an April 1992 robbery, he sexually assaulted a victim.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leonid Feller.