



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois
Western Division*

*Michael D. Love
Assistant U.S. Attorney*

*308 West State Street - Room 300
Rockford, Illinois 61101*

*PH: (815) 987-4444
FAX: (815) 987-4236*

November 15, 2007

ROCKFORD MAN SENTENCED TO 105 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR HIS ROLE IN TWO ROBBERIES OF NATIONAL CITY BANK IN ROCKFORD

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and CHET EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

Today, United States District Judge Frederick J. Kapala sentenced **ROBERT J. JOHNSON**, 38, of Rockford, to 105 months in federal prison without parole for the robbery of the National City Bank branch located at 4615 East State Street, Rockford, on October 24, 2006 and January 29, 2007. Johnson was also ordered to serve 3 years of supervised release following his release from prison, and to pay restitution to the bank.

Johnson pled guilty to the charges on August 3, 2007. In pleading guilty, Johnson admitted that on October 24, 2006, he walked into the National City Bank located at 4615 East State Street in Rockford with a manilla envelope in his hands, approached a bank teller, took a BB gun which had the appearance of a handgun out of the manilla envelope, pointed the BB gun at the teller and ordered the bank teller to put money in the manilla envelope. According to the plea agreement, the bank teller placed money in the envelope and handed it to the defendant who then walked out of the bank.

Johnson further admitted in his plea agreement that on January 29, 2007 he again walked into the National City Bank at 4615 East State Street. Brandishing a BB gun which had the appearance of a handgun, Johnson approached a teller, threw a black plastic bag at the teller and demanded that the teller put money in the bag. The teller put money into the bag and gave the bag back to the defendant who then fled the bank.

Johnson was arrested on February 6, 2007, and has been held in custody since his arrest.

The case was investigated by the Rockford Police Department and the Rockford Office of the FBI. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Michael D. Love.

#####