

Murder trial ordered for pair

Priscilla Ricketts' pens
taken as souvenirs
after robbery-slaying

TROY

By MATT HELMS
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Two men who prosecutors say
took Priscilla Ricketts'
souvenirs after killing
her, ordered to stand trial
on first-degree murder

William Bolle of 52-4
Court said there was
evidence to warrant try-

ing Thomas Enfield, 22, of Warren
and John Wilson, 21, of Hazel
Park in Oakland County Circuit
Court. They're charged with
snatching Ricketts' purse in a
Troy shopping center, running
her down and fleeing in March
1997. A date for arraignment
before Judge Richard Kuhn has
yet to be set.

Assistant Oakland County
Prosecutor Daniel Lemisch said
Monday that a bank manager
placed Enfield in the Comerica
Bank branch in the shopping center
shortly before the attack, trying
to cash a check he'd stolen
from his grandmother.

Another woman — whom
prosecutors asked the media not
to identify to protect her children

— testified she saw two men
speeding away in a large vehicle.

The woman's daughter, now
10, said she saw a man apparently
trying to steal Ricketts' purse.
And the woman's son, 12, identified
the speeding vehicle as a
truck that belonged to a friend of
Wilson.

Pinning the purse-snatching
on Enfield, Lemisch said that
Ricketts was targeted because
she was a petite woman with an
expensive designer purse — sure
to hold money he needed to
soothe his heroin habit.

"Tom Enfield took a souvenir
with him that day," Lemisch said,
but it ended up at the home of
family friends.

That pen, a limited-edition sil-

ver Tiffany creation from a cruise
ship, was found at the home of
Linda Stevenson, a longtime
friend of Enfield's family. She testified
she believes he left it there
during a visit within a week of
Ricketts' death.

The other pen, which witnesses
described as silver and gold,
never was found and presumably
was destroyed, Lemisch said. Several
witnesses testified that Wilson
called them searching for it.

Wilson's lawyer, David Steingold,
said prosecutors relied on
witnesses who had criminal records
and admitted drug habits.

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Kennedy papers end in jail time

NEW YORK — For forging
love letters between John F.
Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe,
then cheating investors
out of about \$7 million, Lawrence
Cusack III will get six to
eight years in prison.

For soiling the Kennedy
name and the reputations of
so many others, he deserves
an extra two years behind
bars, U.S. District Judge Denise
Cote said Thursday.

Cusack's sentencing was
scheduled for today, but Cote
said Thursday she would be
giving him a minimum of eight
years and possibly 10 for his
"nearly sociopathic disregard
for the impact his actions would
have on others."

Cusack, 48, was convicted in
April of 13 mail and wire fraud
charges.

Con man convicted of forging JFK letters about Monroe affair

By Verena Dobnik
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The son of a
prominent lawyer was found guilty
Friday of forging documents claim-
ing President Kennedy paid hush
money to keep secret an affair with
Marilyn Monroe.

Lawrence X. Cusack III, 48, of
Fairfield, Conn., who made a fortune
selling hundreds of Kennedy-
linked documents he claimed came
from his late father, was convicted
on 13 mail and wire fraud charges.

When Judge Denise Cote announced
the guilty verdict on each charge,
Cusack's jaw dropped. He stared,
eyes narrowed, at the jurors as
Cote asked each one, "Does that
represent your verdict?" He then
shook his head repeatedly and
dropped his face into his hands.

At his sentencing in July, Cusack
faces up to five years in prison on
each of the 13 fraud counts, and a
maximum \$250,000 fine on each
count.

The case caused a furor in 1997
after Pulitzer Prize-winning author
Seymour Hersh deleted material
based on the documents from his
book, "The Dark Side of Camelot,"

after the authenticity of the papers
was questioned.

Cusack produced letters that he
said were written between his late
father, who helped handle the Monroe
estate, and the slain president.
The documents appeared to prove
rumors about Kennedy and Monroe,
the Mafia and FBI Director J.
Edgar Hoover.

Prosecutors said Cusack swindled
investors out of millions by forging
Kennedy's name on phony
letters.

The government argued that
there was ample proof he was the
forger: The typeface used in many
of the letters came from a typewriter
that was not manufactured until the
1970s, and in those papers, the
contents are based on drafts contained
in a notebook Cusack had used.

Cusack "told lie after lie after lie
to make people believe the documents
were real," prosecutor Peter
Neiman said in closing argument
earlier this week.

But defense attorney Robert
Katzberg said that while a handwriting
expert concluded the president's
handwriting had been simulated or
traced, it could not be proved his
client did it.