



## News

# Dog Attacks Dubuque Letter Carrier

The mauling happened Friday morning.

Now postal workers say these kinds of dog attacks are happening too often.

Steve Heins is taking it easy after an attack he says will haunt him for the rest of his life.

Letter carrier Steve Heins said, "I reached down into my sack, and just as I reached down the dog jumped up on to my face. I immediately ran behind her vehicle which was behind me, and I was bleeding profusely."

The dog's owner says the greyhound-mutt mix broke free from its chain.

The attack happened at the home of City Councilwoman Pat Cline.

Cline says her family is devastated. She says her dog has never shown signs of aggression in the past.

Heins said, "You never know what an animal is going to do."

Postal workers say dog attacks are a growing problem nationwide.

Dubuque averages four dog bites against postal workers each year.

Dubuque's Postmaster Kevin Botsford says it's so bad, carriers refuse to deliver mail to some neighborhoods.

Botsford said, "In some cases we have withheld delivery to entire block because the homeowners refuse to cooperate, and their dog can run loose in the neighborhood."

This is the third time in his career Heins has been bitten by a dog.

Heins said, "In general people need to be more aware of where their dogs are going to be located as far as where the mail is delivered."

Eager to return to work, Heins hopes this attack will be the last.

Cline says she thinks her family will find a new home for their dog somewhere outside of Dubuque.

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