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Charges Issued in Death of Deacon Robert Reynolds

Today Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy charged two juveniles, ages 13 and 17 in connection with the September 12, 2004 death of Robert Reynolds that occurred on Outer Drive in Detroit as he was leaving Trinity Community Presbyterian Church.

They are being charged with First Degree Murder-Premeditated, Felony Murder, Armed Robbery and Carjacking. Premeditated Murder and Felony Murder carry maximum sentences of life in prison without parole. Carjacking and Armed Robbery carry maximum penalties of life in prison. The 17 year old has also been charged with Felony Firearm that carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison.

The 13 year old will be Adult Designated. The prosecution may designate a juvenile as an adult in a case involving a "specified" felony, such as First Degree Murder or Carjacking. In designated cases, the defendant is tried in Juvenile Court as an adult. A resulting conviction yields three sentencing options: 1) juvenile disposition; 2) adult sentence; or 3) a delayed (blended) sentence. When a juvenile receives a delayed sentence, he or she is initially sentenced as a juvenile with the discretion of the court to impose an adult sentence at any time during the probationary period if rehabilitation is unsuccessful.

The 17 year old is automatically tried as an adult under Michigan statutory law.

The arraignment on the warrant for the 17 year old will occur on September 16, 2004 at 36th District Court in Detroit at 1:30 p.m.

The preliminary hearing for the 13 year old will occur on September 16, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. before Referee David Perkins at the Juvenile Detention Facility.

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