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TWO MEN CHARGED IN MACABRE MURDER OF RIVER ROUGE MAN

Jean Pierre Orlewicz, 17 of Plymouth and Alexander James Letkemann, 18 of Westland were charged with the murder of Daniel Sorenson, 26 of River Rouge. The case was solved through the combined efforts of the Northville Township Police, the Canton Township Police, the Plymouth Township Police, the Livonia Police, the Michigan State Police, the Wayne County Sheriff's Office and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

The warrant alleges that on November 7, 2007, the two defendants invited Sorenson to a house on the 8200 Block of Holly Lane, in Canton for the purpose of killing him. The house belongs to Orlewicz's grandfather. Sorenson was led into the garage, where the killing took place. He was stabbed repeatedly and his head was dismembered.

Orlewicz and Letkemann took Sorenson's torso to an area near 7 Mile Road and Ridge Road in Northville and set it on fire; Sorenson's head was thrown into the River Rouge near Hines Park. The Michigan State Police were able to identify the torso by using fingerprints.

The victim may have owed the two defendants small sums of money, but this is not thought to be the principal motive.

Both men have been charged with First Degree Premeditated Murder and Felony Murder, both of which carry mandatory sentences of life in prison, and Mutilation of a Corpse, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

"I've been in law enforcement for 22 years," said Prosecutor Kym Worthy, "I've seen every kind of crime, and still, the idea that there are people who would kill just for the thrill of it is bone-chilling. The evidence that the police have gathered in this case suggests just that."

John Werth, Director of Public Safety for Northville Township, stated: "Investigators have worked tirelessly, virtually around the clock, gathering information, developing leads, collecting evidence, and executing search warrants. By putting the pieces together, we were able to determine who was responsible for this terrible act and where the death took place. Due to the incident's complexity and the numerous details that have arisen, no further information will be available until the preliminary examination."

Director of Public Safety, John Santomauro stated," As a result of a multi-jurisdictional collaborative effort by numerous law enforcement agencies the Canton Police were able to arrest and charge two individuals for this horrific and heinous crime."

The arraignment will take place today after the press conference in the 34th District Court located at 11131 S. Wayne Road in Romulus, Michigan.