



KYM L. WORTHY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Richard D. Hathaway,
Chief Assistant
Donn Fresard, Chief of Staff

COUNTY OF WAYNE
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

1200 FRANK MURPHY HALL OF JUSTICE
1441 ST. ANTOINE STREET
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-2302
TEL: (313) 224-5777
FAX: (313) 224-0974

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Contact: Maria Miller
Wayne County Prosecutor's Office
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
(313) 224-5817
(313) 213-0457
mmiller@co.wayne.mi.us

PROSECUTOR ANNOUNCES CHARGES IN FATAL HIT & RUN OF WHEELCHAIR BOUND PEDESTRIAN

Today Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy announced charges in connection with a July 17, 2007 car theft that resulted in the death of Gwendolyn Lenard Hall, 56 of Detroit.

George Douglas, 14, and David Haley, 16 of Detroit allegedly stole a Jeep Cherokee in the Wayne State University area. Wayne State University Police observed the 14 year-old driving the Jeep at high rate of speed on the Lodge Service Drive southbound near West Warren. The Jeep ran a red light, hit a car, and lost control. The Jeep jumped the curb and hit Ms. Hall, who was on the sidewalk of West Warren in a wheelchair. Ms. Hall was conveyed to Detroit Receiving Hospital where she died from her injuries.

George Douglas and David Haley have been charged with Felony Murder; and Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property/Motor Vehicle. George Douglas, will also be charged with: Unlawful Driving Away of A Motor Vehicle; Leaving the Scene of An Accident While at Fault Causing Death; and the misdemeanor No Operators Permit. Both defendants will be "adult designated" and tried as adults. Upon conviction, the judge may sentence the two as juveniles, as adults or create a blended sentence.

"Ms. Hall was an innocent victim who met a violent death. This is not a case of mere joyriding. This is a case where, once again, a car was used in a dangerous way with a fatal result," said Prosecutor Worthy, "Let me make this very plain: juveniles who steal cars and endanger the public will face serious consequences."

The arraignment was held at the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center located on 1326 St. Antoine in the City of Detroit before Referee Kathleen Walton-Allen. Both defendants' remain in the youth home on \$250,000 cash bond. They have an exam set for August 6, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in front of Judge Hartsfield.

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