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SUSPECT CHARGED IN GARDENDALE FATAL STABBING AND ASSAULT

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy charged Matthew Bryant, 38 with one count of Premeditated First Degree Murder and one count of Felony Murder in connection with the homicide of Michael Woodger, 19 on Gardendale in Detroit. The defendant was also charged with one count of Kidnapping, one count of Assault With Intent to Murder, one count of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the First Degree, Assault With Intent to Do Great Bodily Harm and as a Fourth Habitual Offender.

First Degree Murder and Felony Murder carry a penalty of life in prison without parole. Kidnapping, Criminal Sexual Conduct in the First Degree and Assault With Intent to Murder all carry maximum penalties of up to life in prison. Assault With Intent to Do Great Bodily Harm carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison.

Prosecutor Worthy stated, "I am deeply saddened by this unpredictable, violent and senseless act. I pledge to the family and to the community that we will prosecute this person to the fullest extent of the law."

The defendant is scheduled to be arraigned today at 5:30 p.m. at 36th District Court in Detroit.

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