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Grosse Pointe Murder Defendants Convicted

Today two Wayne County juries convicted Joseph Michael Marasco, 51, of Grosse Pointe and Derrick Anthony Thompson, 46, of Detroit in connection with the June 14, 2005 murder of Barbara Iske. Mr. Marasco was convicted of Felony Murder, Murder First Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Murder. Mr. Thompson was convicted of Murder First Degree and Felony Firearm. The convictions mandate sentences of life without parole for both defendants.

Judge Gregory Bill presided over the trial that was heard by both juries and set a sentencing date of August 2, 2006 for Mr. Thompson and August 3, 2006 for Mr. Marasco.

Prosecutor Worthy stated, "I truly hope this verdict gives some level of peace to the Iske family who persevered and believed in us during the entirety of this seven week trial.

"Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Robert Stevens, the Grosse Pointe Police Department and the Detroit Police Department tirelessly worked on this case for a year. The citizens of Grosse Pointe owe them a debt of gratitude. We are proud of the verdict."

Grosse Pointe Police Chief James Fox stated: "We are very happy justice was served, and we thank the Iske family and friends for their support during

this process. Thanks to the Prosecutor, Kym L. Worthy and Assistant Prosecutor Bob Stevens for their able assistance. We also want to thank the Detroit Police Department and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department for their work on this case."

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