

Detroit man found guilty in slaying of Warren couple

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By Christina Stolarz

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MOUNT CLEMENS — A **Detroit man** was **found guilty** Tuesday afternoon **of** two counts **of** first-degree murder **in** the November 2007 shootings **of** his ex-girlfriend and her new boyfriend.

A Macomb County Circuit Court jury deliberated for about two and half hours before returning the verdict against Xavier Chase, 40.

Chase wore a Halloween-style mask and dark clothing and had the makings **of** a "stakeout" **in** his truck that was parked three blocks away from his ex-girlfriend's **Warren** apartment, Assistant Macomb County Prosecutor Steve Fox said **in** closing statements earlier Tuesday.

"I haven't even gotten to the DNA yet," Fox said. "Is there any question about his intent? He is a scorned lover. He didn't get his way, he didn't get (ex-girlfriend) Rema (Reed) and no one else will either. This was an execution, no doubt. There is no question from the evidence the defendant deliberated these things."

Chase is accused **of** laying **in** wait Nov. 4, 2007, outside Reed's south **Warren** apartment carrying a gun and wearing a mask like the killer Michael Myers **in** the "Halloween" slasher movies. Police say Chase ambushed them as Reed, 32, and her new boyfriend, Terry Buchanan, 36, left the apartment to leave for work **in** the morning.

Reed tried to drive away, running up on the curb, when Chase allegedly shot her twice **in** the head and face, police said. Buchanan ran, but was fatally shot twice **in** the complex's driveway.

Warren police say Chase ran from the scene eastbound toward Hoover Road where, after a short foot pursuit, he was arrested without incident.

"What do you think Rema Reed and Terry Buchanan were thinking **in** those last few moments, the last minutes when the defendant, **in** a Michael Myers mask and dark clothes, approached?" Fox questioned the jury. "We can only guess Terry Buchanan was thinking, 'God save me.'"

Chase's defense attorney, Timothy Barkovic, told the jury it's hard to decipher what really happened after listening to snippets **of** testimony.

"Here is a killing out **of** context," he said during his closing statements. "The prosecution says he is a scorned lover. There is no testimony or evidence that that was the reason or motive **in** this particular case. The facts **of** this case, if believed, are that this is more **in** nature with a random killing."

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