

NWS

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Wednesday, September 28, 1983

Author: Free Press Staff and Wire Reports

Dateline Michigan

Father tried in girl's death

DETROIT -- Five-month-old Jenine Jefferson's skull was broken with almost the same force as if she had been struck by a car or had fallen two stories, according to testimony Monday in Recorder's Court.

Carlos Fanning, 24, is on trial before Judge Craig Strong, charged with second-degree murder in his daughter's death. Fanning allegedly beat the infant to death the morning of March 28. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

Dr. Richard Rideout said the child's skull was broken in several places. The injuries could only have been caused by "a very severe trauma," he said, likening the force to that of a car accident or a long fall. X-rays also showed the child had suffered previous injuries.

The child's mother had left her in Fanning's care while she went to a welfare office, according to police.

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Record Number: 8303010822

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