

GIRL , 14 , WILL BE TRIED FOR MURDER

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LANSING -- An Ingham County juvenile judge refused Thursday to drop a first-degree **murder** charge against a **14** -year-old **girl** linked to the February slaying of a State Police trooper.

Judge Donald Owens said testimony from more than 30 witnesses called by the prosecution in the first four days of the trial was sufficient to continue it before a seven-member jury.

Aside from first-degree **murder** , charges against Penny Pulley of Jackson include armed robbery, marijuana possession and concealing a weapon. The juvenile has been accused of handing over the gun used to kill State Trooper Craig Scott and encouraging the theft of a car from a Leslie woman.

Owens said his decision to continue the **murder** charge was "very close."

He said he based his decision on conflicting testimony on whether or not the **girl** knew of Juivonne Littlejohn's intent to kill the trooper when he asked **for** the bag containing the weapon.

"HOW IN THE world could she know what the outcome was going to **be** ?" said defense attorney Kenneth DeBoer. "She did not give that gun to him **for** the purpose of blowing away a police officer."

Assistant Ingham County Prosecutor Judd Spray said "the only reason to get that gun out again was to use it. She knew what that meant."

Earlier, in the related adult trial, an annoyed Ingham County Circuit Judge Jack Warren refused to allow as evidence tapes and transcripts of statements given by a key witness in the case.

Attorneys **for** the two defendants have agreed to continue with a single trial. Littlejohn, 24, the alleged gunman, and Dennis Wynn, 28, his half-brother, are charged with **murder** and armed robbery.

Wynn's attorney, Thomas Rasmussen, had asked that tape recordings of statements by Sylvia Slater, 18, of Detroit **be** admitted as proof that she is not a credible witness.

SLATER AND TWO **14** -year-old **girls** were passengers with Littlejohn in a car driven by Wynn on Feb. 9. Scott pulled the car over and was arresting Wynn on a routine traffic violation when Littlejohn allegedly shot the officer.

Slater recounted those events during her two days of testimony. Rasmussen then produced several tapes and statements in which the woman gave a different version of the shooting, involving a mythical sixth person named T.J. Williams.

After Warren dismissed the 14 -member jury from the courtroom, Slater said she made the taped statements under threats from Minnie Littlejohn, the mother of the two men.

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