

## Glove DNA links Detroit man to Warren murder, police say

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By Charles E. Ramirez

The Detroit News

WARREN — Authorities have used DNA evidence from a pair of gloves to charge a 26-year-old Detroit man for his part in a January 2008 abduction and murder of a Warren man, officials said Tuesday.

After obtaining a warrant, police arrested **Kenneth Ray Witherspoon** at his Detroit home on Tuesday, said Warren Police Commissioner William Dwyer. **Witherspoon** is scheduled to be arraigned in 37th District Court on several charges, including first-degree murder, kidnapping, home invasion and auto theft. The first-degree murder charge carries penalty of life in prison without parole.

Police say **Witherspoon** and his cousin, Herbert Jamel **Witherspoon**, 31, also of Detroit, kidnapped and murdered Rico White last year. Warren police arrested Herbert Jamel **Witherspoon** on Sept. 3, 2008, in connection with the crime. He is currently in the Macomb County Jail, awaiting trial on 11 charges stemming from White's murder, officials said.

The two men kidnapped White along with his girlfriend and their children at gunpoint from their home in the 27700 block of Gail Street on Jan. 15, 2008, Dwyer said. Gail is east of Van Dyke and runs between Interstate 696 and Martin Road.

The suspects terrorized the family for more than a day before releasing White's girlfriend and the children in the Gateshead and Canyon area of Detroit, officials said.

Detroit Police found White's body at about 10:15 a.m. on Jan. 16 on Giese Street west of Van Dyke, authorities said. White had multiple gunshot wounds to his head, Dwyer said.

On Friday, Warren Police detectives received the results of a DNA test conducted by the Michigan State Police Forensic Crime Laboratory on gloves recovered from the crime scene that match them to the younger **Witherspoon**, Dwyer said.

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