

ARSON SUSPECT CHARGED WITH MURDER - DETROIT APARTMENT COMPLEX FIRE KILLED 2

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Wednesday, January 12, 2005

Author: SUZETTE HACKNEY

A woman accused of setting a Detroit apartment building ablaze because of a drug debt was arraigned on **murder** charges Tuesday.

Louretha Morgan, 46, of Detroit was **charged with** two counts of felony **murder - arson** in Sunday's fire in the 900 block of Merton, near Palmer Park.

Two people died in the blaze: Derrick Wilbourn Jr., 3, and Robin Abraham, 19, who were found in separate apartments.

Morgan, who was arraigned in 36th District Court in downtown Detroit, also was **charged with** eight counts of attempted **murder** and one count of **arson** of a dwelling. If convicted, she faces life in prison **with** no chance of parole.

Police said Morgan was trying to scare another woman who lived in the building because the woman allegedly owed Morgan \$10 for a rock of crack cocaine. Neither of the fire's fatal victims was the intended target, police said.

A total of 12 people were taken to area hospitals from the 46-unit complex, **with** injuries ranging from smoke inhalation to fractured bones. Morgan allegedly started the fire in the building's stairwell.

"Two people are dead and nine people's lives have been altered forever because the defendant chose fire over reason," Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy said in a statement.

Contact SUZETTE HACKNEY at 313-223-4536 or hackney@freepress.com.

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Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS

Page: 3B

Index Terms: fire ; homicide ; multiple ; arson; Detroit ; Louretha Morgan

Record Number: 0000075053

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