

Man ordered to stand trial in prostitutes ' slayings - At exam, police read homeless man 's alleged confessions in 7 deaths; he faces 13 felony charges.

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DETROIT -- After several sessions **in** which he told investigators how he killed six **prostitutes** , Shelly Andre Brooks still wasn't finished talking, a police sergeant said Tuesday.

"There's one more," Curtis Wilson said Brooks told a police colleague, Greg Stopczynski. "Tell the boss there's one more."

That's when Brooks, 37, allegedly told Wilson he strangled a still-unidentified **prostitute** , whose badly decomposed body was found June 5 **in** a house on Harding Street, not far from where his grandmother helped raise him.

But Brooks' lawyer, Mark Brown, suggested Detroit police wanted **to** use his client as an easy way **to** solve investigations they couldn't crack.

"I think this is a situation where we're really just trying **to** close cases," Brown argued during the last of seven preliminary examinations on murder charges against Brooks.

After a day of police reading aloud Brooks' alleged confessions **to** seven **slayings** between August 2001 and June, Brooks was **ordered to stand trial** on 13 of the 14 felony charges against him. Brooks faces life **in** prison if convicted of any of the first-degree murder charges.

Brown said police had DNA evidence **in** only two of the seven **slayings** , but police said later they had it **in** four cases and may yet get it **in** a fifth.

Brooks, who is believed **to** have been homeless for most of the past decade, also is suspected **in** seven other killings that date **to** 1999.

Each of the seven cases he is charged with involved women who agreed **to** trade sex for small amounts of cash or drugs, according **to** the police statements.

Brooks said the women usually tried **to** cut short their liaisons and take off with his money, which sent him into a violent rage, investigators testified.

All the victims except the last one were struck **in** the head with sticks or rocks. Most were found nude **in** vacant houses or near alleys.

A forensic pathologist said it is possible that the unidentified woman was strangled -- as Brooks may have said -- but he could not be certain because all the skin and tissue had decomposed from her head and neck area by the time her remains were found.

Brown suggested that the investigators questioned Brooks far longer and provided more details about the crimes than his police statements show.

In one interview, Brooks was asked about the death of Rhonda Myles **in** April 2002.

Brooks initially denied knowing anything about her death, said Detroit Officer Michael Carlisle, the chief investigator **in** all the cases.

"He said, 'I've had sex with maybe 50, 60, 70 women over the last five years. I can't remember all of them,'" Carlisle said.

Several days later, however, Brooks admitted having sex with the woman even though she didn't want **to** and later beat her with a stick, Carlisle said.

Asked why Brooks suddenly had more **to** say, Carlisle said, "I didn't believe him then, and he knew I didn't believe him."

Caption: Shelly Andre Brooks faces life **in** prison if convicted of any of the first-degree murder charges against him.

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