

## **Sentencing in Eastpointe salon killing delayed; new trial may be sought**

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MOUNT CLEMENS -- The sentencing for a 29-year-old Detroit man convicted in a fatal shooting at his Eastpointe hair salon was adjourned today to allow his attorney time to review testimony and possibly seek a new trial.

**Shannon Anderson** was to be sentenced today by Macomb Circuit Court Judge David Viviano on multiple charges, including second-degree murder, in the death of Stanley Rhymes on Jan. 15, 2007, at the Wild Stylz salon.

Although a jury found Anderson guilty Sept. 28, his newly retained attorney, Sheldon Halpern, requested transcripts from the trial because he believes the jury improperly learned of his client's prior conviction through a document mistakenly shown to jurors.

"I believe there is a basis for the judge to favorably consider a mistrial," Halpern said.

Viviano gave Halpern until Feb. 28 to file his motion, with a hearing following on March 7 with a possible sentencing. He could face a minimum of 32 years in prison.

Anderson was on parole at the time of the shooting. He served eight years in prison for a 1996 armed robbery. He was released from prison in 2003, and the next year, he was arrested for possession of less than 25 grams of cocaine. He was fined \$500, and he returned to prison for parole violation. He was released May 10.

Prosecutor Steve Kaplan disagrees with Halpern's assessment of the need for a mistrial

Kaplan said that a certified copy of the conviction was "inadvertently" included with the exhibits presented to jurors. He said that after the jury gave their verdict, a juror had mentioned she had seen the document.

Viviano, who presided over the case, along with Kaplan and previous defense attorney Ronnie Cromer Jr., then interviewed each of the 12 jurors to learn to what extent they saw the document.

"Eleven of the jurors didn't see it," Kaplan said. "This one juror who saw it, didn't show it to anyone, didn't read it or even consider it."

Kaplan added that after the interviews, Cromer did not move for a mistrial.

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