

Sixth suspect charged in death of two Detroit boys

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DETROIT -- A **sixth** person was arrested and **charged** today **in** connection with the Feb. 23 **deaths** of two Detroit boys and the shooting of a 23-year-old male relative **in** a home on the west side , Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy announced this afternoon.

Terry Blakely, 56, is **charged** on multiple counts of murder, robbery, kidnapping, assault and armed robbery.

Five **suspects** were arraigned Tuesday **in** Detroit's 36th District Court on multiple charges of murder, robbery and gun violations **in** what Detroit Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings decried as an "explosion of violence" resulting **in** the brutal slayings of 11-year-old Darren Johnson of Oak Park and 13-year-old Orlando Herron **in** a home **in** the 6500 block of Mansfield.

The five are: Sonya O'Neal, 38, Torrisandois Lyons, 42, Deandre Witherspoon, 23, and Robert Reed, 36, and Charles Moore, 38, all of Detroit . They are scheduled for preliminary examinations March 12 at 36th District Court **in** Detroit.

Orlando and Darren died from gunshot wounds to the head. The third victim, Ronel Thompson, 23, of Detroit, was discovered **in** the house shot several times but survived. **In** addition, there were three other victims assaulted **in** the Mansfield house. It is alleged that drugs and money may have been the motive for the shootings.

Meanwhile, Wayne County Jail officials are investigating why Witherspoon, was mistakenly released from jail too early.

Witherspoon was released from the jail on Feb. 13, 10 days before the Mansfield Street shootings. He should not have been released but instead should have been transferred to the custody of Macomb County officials where he was to serve a two-week sentence for fleeing and eluding police, jail officials said.

"It's under investigation," said Chief Jeriel Heard, head of the jails for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department of the jail mix-up. "We don't have any reports completed to see who is responsible or what was not done according to our own jail procedure."

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