

## **DETROIT: SKETCH LEADS TO MURDER CHARGE AGAINST TEEN**

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Friday, February 15, 2008

Author: BEN SCHMITT, FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

A composite sketch and an alert police officer led to the arrest of a 17-year-old wanted in the shooting death of a man who was defending his wife during a purse-snatching incident at a Detroit dry cleaner, Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings said Thursday.

**Edward Michael Jackson** was arraigned Thursday on a first-degree murder charge in connection with the Feb. 6 slaying of 58-year-old Vernon Davis.

Jackson and another man are suspected of barging into Gino's Dry Cleaners in the 17500 block of James Couzens at 2:30 p.m. and grabbing Beatrice Davis' purse. When her husband intervened, Jackson opened fire on him, Bully-Cummings said.

Jackson was arrested Wednesday. His accomplice remained at large.

Bully-Cummings said an officer in the Western District recognized a composite sketch of Jackson as a man he arrested about a month earlier. The case didn't hold up because a victim didn't cooperate, the chief said.

Jackson is suspected of trying to rob two businesses, including a Subway sandwich shop, on the same day of Vernon Davis' killing. Bully-Cummings said he also is suspected of robbing another Subway shop on Feb. 8 in an incident in which shots were fired but no one was injured.

Bully-Cummings said she is fed up with teens committing such heinous crimes and issued a message for parents.

"There is no other outcome but death or jail for your child if they choose a life of crime," she said. "And if you are aware of their activities and turn a blind eye, you are just as responsible for the crimes that they are committing."

Woon Kim, owner of Gino's Dry Cleaners, said the Davis couple had been coming to her business for about five years.

"Oh, thank God they caught someone," she said. "This is terrible."

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call Detroit police at 313-596-2260.

Contact BEN SCHMITT at 313-223-4296 or [bschmitt@freepress.com](mailto:bschmitt@freepress.com).

**DISCLAIMER: THIS ELECTRONIC VERSION MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM THE PRINTED ARTICLE**

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS; NEWS

Page: 3B

Index Terms: juvenile; homicide; Detroit; drawing

Record Number: dfp0000540622

Copyright (c) Detroit Free Press. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.