

Suspect tried to make Cheli stabbings look like robbery, police say

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DETROIT - One of the two people killed Tuesday morning at Chris Chelios' downtown restaurant was at an open safe when a 17-year-old former employee, **Justin Blackshere**, stabbed him in the chest and face, police sources said.

Investigators believe **Blackshere** argued with Mark Adam Barnard, 52, before grabbing one of the cooking knives at Cheli's Chili Bar and attacking him, according to a police official with knowledge of the probe.

Megan Jo Soroka, 49, who managed the restaurant near Comerica Park, heard screams and entered the room, too, the source said. The teen then stabbed her in the head, took \$10,000 in cash and left, police believe.

On Wednesday Wayne County Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy charged **Blackshere** with two counts of first-degree murder and two counts of felony murder. The charges carry sentences of mandatory life in prison without parole.

Blackshere, who has a sex crime on his juvenile record, has been questioned by police since Tuesday afternoon. Investigators found \$10,000 covered in wrappers from Cheli's in his house, the source said. The boy had changed his clothes and wandered around aimlessly prior to his arrest, the source said.

The slayings happened about 9 a.m. as the restaurant staff was preparing to open for lunch.

Neither the Detroit restaurant nor its sister restaurant in Dearborn opened Tuesday. The Dearborn location reopened today.

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