

SUSPECT SAYS HE HAD TO KILL, BECAUSE OWNER KNEW HIM

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The owner of the Red Wing Party Store saw a familiar customer and stepped from behind his bulletproof barrier to greet him.

But Norman Shohatee didn't know that familiarity would mean his death.

"Norm opened the door and said to me, ' **Jason** , **Jason** . How you doing, my man?' " one of the men accused of killing him told Detroit police.

"Once he saw our faces, especially Pete and me, he had to go -- along with the other Arabs," **Jason Armour** , 23, said. The confession was read by Sgt. Ron Sanders at a hearing in 36th District Court on Monday.

Judge Thomas Van Tiem Sr. ordered **Armour** and Tony Dupree, 20, both of Detroit, to stand trial for the April 4 murders of Shohatee, 25, and his friends Faiz Al Maweri, 19, and Tawfiq Mussed, 19, all of Dearborn.

Armour and Dupree are each charged with first-degree murder, armed robbery and using a firearm during a felony. They will be arraigned in Recorder's Court April 27.

Police also read Dupree's account of what happened at the store at 15744 W. Seven Mile. **Armour** named Dupree as the killer of Shohatee and a second victim. Dupree said it was **Armour** .

The confessions also say that Lloyd (Pete) Hicks, 18, of Detroit, shot the third victim after trying to stab him to death. Police are looking for Hicks.

Also on Monday, **Armour** was ordered to stand trial for the first-degree murder of Steven Cheng during a March 8 robbery at Cheng's Garden Restaurant, 18133 W. McNichols.

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