

WITNESS RECANTS , JUDGE DROPS MURDER CHARGE

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A first-degree **murder charge** against a Detroit teenager was dismissed Wednesday when the key **witness** , who is facing **murder charges** in an unrelated case, recanted her testimony.

Detroit District **Judge** Prentis Edwards dismissed the **murder charge** against Mario Landers when Doretha Brown testified she never saw Landers gun down suspected narcotics dealer William (Chilly Willie) Hunter outside a west side apartment in June.

Brown, who is charged with the **murder** and armed robbery of a 71-year-old minister, had twice named Landers, 19, as the killer during court proceedings against his alleged accomplice, Frank Denalo Lee.

BUT WEDNESDAY , Brown, 18, told Edwards she lied during the testimony in Lee's preliminary examination and trial.

Lee, 19, was acquitted a month ago by a Recorder's Court jury after three **witnesses** testified that he was in Atlanta buying a car when Hunter was killed.

Police investigators believe that Hunter, reputedly an independent drug dealer, was killed by members of the Pony Down drug ring trying to consolidate their territory.

Brown, who also uses the name Stone, is awaiting trial on **charges** of first-degree **murder** and assault with intent to commit armed robbery in the May 5 shooting death of the Rev. Benjamin Tyner at his Tyler Street home.

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