BIKER CLUB LEADER GETS LIFE SENTENCE

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Saturday, September 17, 1983 Author: JOE SWICKARD Free Press Staff Writer

Motorcycle club president Paul (Rocky) Dye, protesting that he was wrongly convicted on the testimony of "murderers and arsonists," was sentenced Friday to life in prison without parole for murdering two women at the club's Detroit headquarters 13 months ago.

Recorder's Court Judge Michael Sapala, noting the Legislature had made the sentence for first-degree murder mandatory, said Dye "shall not, under any circumstances, be eligible for parole."

Dye, president of the **Forbidden Wheels motorcycle club**, was convicted two weeks ago by a jury of shooting Donna Bartels and Glenda Collins both in the head with an automatic pistol after they "messed with him" by refusing sexual advances, according to testimony.

Testifying in his own defense, Dye said the main prosecution witness, Bruce (Tumbleweed) Seidel, was the real murderer who killed the women because they overheard two other club members, James (Skeeter) Dawson and Steven (Smootch) Stever, confess to a firebombing.

Dye said to Sapala at sentencing: "I would like to tell this court that I really believe I got a bad deal. When the prosecution uses murderers and arsonists to convict an innocent man, there has been a miscarriage of justice. . . ."

Edition: METRO EDITION

Section: NWS Page: 3A

Index Terms: MURDER; TRIAL; END

Record Number: 8302280482

Copyright (c) 1983 Detroit Free Press