

## 2 GET LIFE SENTENCES IN ST . AUBIN KILLINGS JUDGE URGES ACTION ON GUN CONTROL IN CITY

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Citing the **St . Aubin Street massacre** as an example of the oft-repeated link between prevalent guns and death in Detroit, Recorder's Court Judge Harvey Tennen on Monday sentenced two defendants to life in prison in the deaths of six people during a crack house robbery.

Tennen said he hoped everybody associated with the case resolves "that we're going to do something about gun control" as he sentenced Tamara Marshall, 18, and Mark Bell, 20, for their roles in the April 4 killings at 17850 **St . Aubin .**

"Maybe our city will wake up," Tennen said. "There's just too many guns."

Defendant Jamal Biggs, 19, is to be sentenced Friday pending the outcome of a motion filed by his attorney, Marc Lakin.

Sentencing came as at least six Wayne County sheriff's deputies controlled who entered and left the courtroom. The families of the deceased and the defendants were separated during the sentencing.

Marshall told Tennen she did not get a fair trial because of "the enormous amount of publicity" associated with the case.

She told the families of the slain victims: "I was there one time, just as the deceased were. . . . That doesn't make them better than I am." Marshall reportedly was the former girlfriend of Steve Owens, 32, who allegedly ran the crack house and was one of the six victims.

But Tennen told Marshall that "you were the leader; you were responsible" for the killings.

It was "three people working together to rob and kill these people," Tennen said. "Execution-style. How horrible. How horrible."

Tennen sentenced her to life in prison without parole on three first-degree murder counts; 60 to 90 years for two counts of second-degree murder; 40 to 60 months for accessory after the fact, and two years for using a firearm during a felony.

Bell, still claiming innocence, said of the victims' families present, "I didn't kill any of their sons."

Tennen, however, said Bell had faced gun charges before. He lamented that he had sentenced Bell to an 18-month-to-4- year prison term in February 1989 for felonious assault, but because of prison overcrowding, Bell was released early -- and thus wasn't behind bars when the crack house slayings occurred.

He ordered Bell to the mandatory term of life in prison on six murder counts and two years for using a firearm during a felony.

Besides Owens, the other slaying victims were Bobby Frazier, 16; Rodney Lewis, 22; Carl Williams, 21; Robert Hill, 15, and Levon Robinson, 18.

Earlier, Tennen read a letter from Williams family in which Williams' mother, Glennis, spoke of going to his gravesite Sept. 20 "wishing happy birthday to our son," and saying the families of the victims had received death threats and calls.

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