

' **Scorned lover** ' laid in wait to kill two , Macomb prosecutor says

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By Christina Stolarz

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MOUNT CLEMENS — Macomb County Assistant Prosecutor Steve Fox told a jury today that it has more than enough evidence **to** convict a Detroit man of killing his ex-girlfriend and her new boyfriend **in** November last year.

Xavier Chase, 40, wore a Halloween-style mask and dark clothing and had the makings of a "stakeout" **in** his truck that was parked three blocks away from his ex-girlfriend's Warren apartment, Fox said **in** closing arguments.

"I haven't even gotten **to** the DNA yet," Fox said. "Is there any question about his intent? He is a **scorned lover** . He didn't get his way, he didn't get (ex-girlfriend) Rema (Reed) and no one else will either. This was an execution, no doubt. There is no question from the evidence the defendant deliberated these things."

The jury is expected **to** begin deliberations today.

Chase is accused of laying **in wait** Nov. 4, 2007, outside Reed's south Warren apartment carrying a gun and wearing a mask like the killer Michael Myers **in** the "Halloween" slasher movies. Police say Chase ambushed them as Reed, 32, and her new boyfriend, Terry Buchanan, 36, left the apartment **to** leave for work **in** the morning.

Reed tried **to** drive away, running up on the curb, when Chase allegedly shot her twice **in** the head and face, police said. Buchanan ran, but was fatally shot twice **in** the complex's driveway.

Warren police say Chase ran from the scene eastbound toward Hoover Road where, after a short foot pursuit, he was arrested without incident.

"What do you think Rema Reed and Terry Buchanan were thinking **in** those last few moments, the last minutes when the defendant, **in** a Michael Myers mask and dark clothes, approached?" Fox questioned the jury. "We can only guess Terry Buchanan was thinking, 'God save me.'"

Chase's defense attorney, Timothy Barkovic, told the jury it's hard **to** decipher what really happened , after listening **to** snippets of testimony.

"Here is a killing out of context," he said during his closing statements. "The prosecution says he is a **scorned lover** . There is no testimony or evidence that that was the reason or motive **in** this particular case. The facts of this case, if believed, are that this is more **in** nature with a random killing."

Barkovic told jury members they are faced with one of the most important decisions they'll ever have **to** make – one that will impact a person's life.

"Guilt beyond a reasonable doubt means all the questions are answered," he said. "You cannot have lingering doubts."

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